THE HISTORY OF MACON GEORGIA

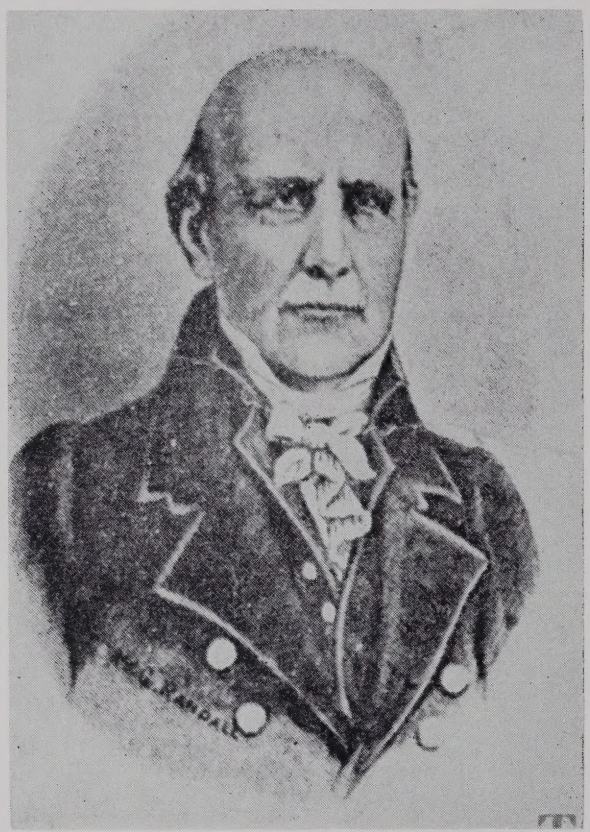
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Nathaniel Macon, North Carolina statesman for whom Macon was named.

HISTORY OF MACON, GEORGIA



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by

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MACON, GEORGIA

1950

PREFACE

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In compiling this record of our city's history, we have relied most heavily upon local newspaper files. Hampered by the stern limitation of time, we were not able to check these for accuracy. Errors (e.g. "W. W. Gaines" on page 587 should be W. W. Carnes) have doubtless found their way into these pages. For these we accept full responsibility. Faced also by the necessity of selection, we decided to give events of public import precedence over family lore. If by this decision the history has lost something of romance, we hope it has gained in perspective and balance.

Many Macon families have opened to us their libraries and records. To them we offer our regrets that time again prevented our utilizing this source, and our gratitude for their generosity.

We acknowledge gratefully the help that has been given us:

Permission to quote and reprint was given by: J. W. Burke Company (Butler's Historical Record of Macon and Central Georgia); The Macon Telegraph Publishing Company (Centennial edition of *The Macon Telegraph* and History Supplement to *The Macon News*) Mr. Dean Guy, of the United States Park Service, (literature and pictures of Ocmulgee National Monument); Dr. M. D. Collins, State Superintendent of Schools, (all publications of the Georgia Department of Education).

Mrs. Kathryn M. Powers and the staff of the Washington Memorial Library; Miss Catharine Carnes and the staff of the Candler Memorial Library of Wesleyan; Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, city clerk; Miss Elise Denton and other workers in the office of County Commissioners; the Macon Chamber of Commerce, and The Macon Telegraph Publishing Company were tireless in making available to us all of their records.

Dr. and Mrs. W. G. Lee, Mrs. Elizabeth T. Jones, Miss Katherine Deitz, Mrs. Broadus Willingham, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Williams, Mrs. Freda Schofield Tutt, Miss Sarah McElroy, Mrs. Walter T. Davis, and Mrs. Walter D. Rhoads lent us rare books. Mrs. Mary Callaway Jones, Mrs. Daisy Huff Sparks, Mrs. W. C. Redding, Miss Mary Bond Smith, and Mrs. Elizabeth M. Feagin patiently answered our queries and gave much time for conferences.

A group of students from Lanier Senior High School for Boys, assisted by Mr. Gholson, gathered information for the last chapter of the history. These were: Harry Lamon, Jr., Jack Cowart, Staley Cates, James Findlay, Hal Anderson, Swaim Tolbert, Usher T. Winslett, Jr., Charles Hartness, George Lumpkin, John Adams, and Henry Kite.

Sutter — 20.00

For further help he is indebted to Mr. W. P. Gaillard, Mr. Bruce Carr Jones, Mr. P. A. McArthur, Mr. Sam Glassman, Mr. B. F. Merritt, Jr., Miss Susan Myrick, and Mrs. Fay Lockhart Cowan.

For information concerning the geological formations around Macon we express gratitude to Miss Ruby Tanner, of the Science Department of Miller Junior High School for Girls.

Mr. Frank Morgan, of Lyon, Marshall & Brooks, has worked far more zealously than his business affiliation required in order to tailor the book and print it accurately.

The project was sponsored by the Macon Woman's Club during the presidency first of Mrs. Leonard R. Booth and later of Mrs. Boykin B. Odom.

Chapters I, II, and VI were written by Clara Nell Hargrove; chapters III and VII by Ida Young; chapters IV, V, VIII by Julius Gholson and the biographical sketches by Mary Callaway Jones (Mrs. Frank F.) or by members of the family of the person described. The book was indexed by Martha Orr Hutcherson (Mrs. Paul M.) and Clara Nell Hargrove.

C. N. H.

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Chapter I

PREHISTORIC

History is the record of what civilized man has done. Macon's written record begins in the first years of the nineteenth century, but the record of its rocks and remains reaches far back into the remote ages of prehistory. The events revealed by these records are marked by uncertainty and conjecture, but to ignore them would be to omit an important part of our city's story. Let us summarize, then, what geologists and archeologists have learned about this region in prehistoric times.

Geologic Times

The immensity of geologic time is so great as to seem infinite. But, just as historians have divided the seven thousand years of man's recorded history into ages, so have geologists divided the three billion years of earth's history into eras, ages, and epochs. To understand these will enable us to sketch in broadest terms the infinity of time before civilization.

The Earth and North America

The first two eras are generally called Pre-Cambrian time. In the first one (Azoic) the earth and other planets were born and the earliest rocks were formed. In the second (Archeozoic) there were gigantic revolutions in the form of volcanic eruptions, mountain building and destroying. The continent of North America took shape.

The third era (Proterozoic) began with a new advance of the sea. Conglomerates were formed and, later, upon them shales. Great revolutions again stirred the earth, and granite was intruded into sedimentary rocks. The era ended with another long age of mountain building followed by the wearing down of these mountains by erosion.

The fourth era (Paleozoic) was dominated by extensive and repeated continental shiftings. Again and again the seas spread over the lands, covering, during the Ordovician Age, 60 per cent of North America. Climates were warm and arid. Much salt and gypsum were deposited, and the world's greatest coal beds were formed. In the last age of this era, following 100,000 years of shifting, the continents were uplifted. Folding and thrusting raised mountains in North America as high as today's Alps, the remnants of which are the Appa-

lachian Mountain range of today. It was in the earliest age of this era that life became varied and common, forming hardened parts capable of being preserved as fossils.

Records of the fifth (Mesozoic) era indicate that the continents were fairly high. At the beginning of its last age (the Cretaceous) much chalk and shale were formed. The last extensive spread of the sea occurred, and the Rocky Mountains developed. The Appalachian Mountains were reduced to a peneplain. Warping turned this into a plateau, giving speed and power to rivers. For the first time in history the open Atlantic Ocean was breaking, eroding, and depositing on the coast of North America, reaching far inland.

The Cenozoic, or period of modern times, began with an age of tremendous folding, faulting, eruption, and intrusion. Mountains were high; valleys sank; seas were narrow. World-wide elevation continued in the Pliocene Age. The Pleistocene Age, last of the ages before man, saw the advance of four great ice sheets with long interglacial epochs. We may now be living in another of these interglacial epochs.

Georgia and Macon

Having disposed thus summarily of our continent's origin, let us now localize the picture and interpret these events in terms of Georgia and Macon.

Geographically, Georgia is most commonly divided into three large areas: the Northern, the Piedmont Plateau, and the Coastal Plain. Geologically, it is far more diversified, having rocks that range in age from Archean to most recent. The Georgia State Geologist has, therefore, used a different classification. "The oldest rocks (Archean and metamorphic Cambrian) form a broad belt in the Highland and Central Upland; the Paleozoic rocks, except the metamorphic Cambrian rocks, occupy the northwest corner of the state, in the Valley and the Lookout Plateau; and the Cretaceous Tertiary, and Quaternary formations make up the entire Coastal Plain."[1]

These sections have been affected by a long series of upheavals and erosions, which occurred long before the land assumed its present shape. The mountains, thrust upward at the close of the Proterozoic Era, were later worn by erosion to form the Piedmont Plateau. Not until millions of years later did the Coastal Plain begin to appear, after a long period of erosion had deposited vast quantities of debris which formed the layers of sands, clays, and marls that make up its formations.

Macon lies directly on the fall line, which separates the Piedmont Plateau (Central Upland) from the Coastal Plain. It is at the edge

1. Geological Survey of Georgia, Bulletin No. 42, prepared in co-operation with the United States Geological Survey, Atlanta. Stein Printing Co., 1925, p. 5.

of the borderland of the continent. The borderland tends to rise more often than it sinks; and the upland regions north of Macon, which are a part of this borderland, furnished the sediment that filled the sunken areas that were later uplifted to form the Coastal Plain. This Central Upland in Pre-Cambrian times, during the Archeozoic and Proterozoic eras, was composed of high mountains rising from the ocean at the present fall line. At the foot of the mountains was the shore line. Battered by waves and eroded by streams, the mountains became the hills of the fall line.

No record of Paleozoic uplifts and sinkings has been preserved near Macon, but there is abundant evidence of uplifts of the Coastal Plain during the Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras. These submergences and emergences penetrated far above the fall line. The first of these uplifts raised the Gainesville plateau, the second the Atlanta plateau, the third raised the Midland plateau and tilted it toward the sea, and the fourth raised the present Coastal Plain.

The Coastal Plain formerly covered parts of what is now the Central Uplands. The granite intrusions now exposed were forced between layers of sedimentary rocks which were washed away and deposited on the Midlands. The Midlands were, in turn, raised and tilted and their sediment washed to the present Coastal Plain.

The surface deposits of Macon are of the Upper Cretaceous period and rest on Pre-Cambrian (Archeozoic) igneous rocks. During the era between Archeozoic times and late Mesozoic times, heating and twisting of the Archeozoic rocks metamorphosed them and intrusions of volcanic rocks formed dikes. Such are the dikes and schists found on the Pape and Trotti property in Macon and at Holton, near Macon. Other deposits here are largely gravel clays and coarse light-colored sands, derived from the granites of the adjoining Piedmont. The kaolin beds at Dry Branch were formed during the Cretaceous Age.

Marine and river terraces were formed here during the Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras. The first river terrace fringes the Ocmulgee at East Macon; Central City Park is built on the second; the business section, occupying a natural amphitheater, lies on the third.[2]

Perhaps because climate and soil conditions in Northern Georgia and in the coastal marshes are more favorable to the forming of fossils, more evidences of prehistoric life have been uncovered in these sections than at Macon. However, one of the most important discoveries in Georgia research was made near Macon, when the remains of a toothed whale of the genus Zeuglodon were uncovered.

The period of geologic time covered billions of years. Seas pounded against shores, winds blew across barrens, rivers carried loose rocks to the sea, new rocks formed, new mountains rose, earthquakes and

2. Ibid. p. 36.

eruptions disturbed and shifted patterns. Today the same forces are imperceptibly working. But Macon has not discernibly changed since the Eocene Age, when the seas made their last retreat from this section.

Ocmulgee National Monument

The continuity of the Westward Movement on the American continent has furnished a living laboratory for the historian. Trails beaten through the forests by discerning animals were used by Indians; who were followed by hunters, trappers, and traders. These were, in turn, followed by settlers. Macon follows this general pattern. Fertile soil, a river that furnished both fishing and transportation, high bluffs providing a well-drained area free from flood water, well-stocked game, and position advantageous for trade were the factors that attracted Indians to this section.

The existence of the village sites and mounds along the Ocmulgee was observed by early writers. Probably the earliest written record of them was given by a ranger assigned to General Oglethorpe's party, when he was making a tour into the Indian country in 1739 to establish friendly relations between the English and natives. This ranger stated that the party "camped at Ocmulgae (Ocmulgee) River where there are three mounts raised by the Indians over three of their great kings who were killed in the wars."[3] He also mentioned that several herds of sixty or "upwards" buffalo were seen here. Best known and most often quoted of the early accounts is that given by William E. Bartram, botanist and explorer who visited this area in 1777 and who described the site in his Travels: "About seventy or eighty miles above the confluence of the Oakmulge and Ocone the trading path, from Augusta to the Creek Nation, crosses these fine rivers, which are there forty miles apart. On the east bank of the Oakmulge, this trading road runs nearly two miles through ancient Indian fields, which are called the Oakmulge fields: they are the rich lowlands of the river. On the heights of these low grounds are yet visible monuments, or traces, of an ancient town, such as artificial mounts or terraces, squares and banks, encircling considerable areas. Their old fields and planting land extend up and down the river, fifteen or twenty miles from this site. If we are to give credit to the account the Creeks give of themselves, this place is remarkable for being the first town or settlement, when they sat down (as they term it) or established themselves, after their emigration from the west, beyond the Mississippi, their original country."[4] Mr. Charles C. Jones Jr., a Georgian, who spent many years studying the Indians, has given

3. B. L. Bryan, United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Guide Manual for Ocmulgee National Monument, p. 5.
4. Bartram, The Travels of William Bartram, Macy-Masius, Publishers, p. 68.

the fullest descriptions of both the Ocmulgee remains and of Brown's Mount.[5]

For many years local interest, ranging from accidental discoveries by boys or workmen to the more scientific investigations of scholarly citizens, has centered around the Indian mounds. Most active in exploring the region on the Ocmulgee were Dr. C. C. Harrold, Mr. Linton Solomon, Mr. Walter A. Harris, and Mr. Leon P. Smith. In 1933 Dr. Harrold, Mr. Harris, and Mr. Solomon requested the Macon Junior Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a movement to purchase and preserve the mounds. The Junior Chamber of Commerce agreed, and on December 15, 1933, Mound "A" and the Lamar Mounds were purchased and a C.W.A. project was started for clearing the land and building a road. Simultaneously with the approval of this project, it was announced that a project of the Smithsonian Institution for archeological work in the Dunlap area had been obtained. Dr. A. R. Kelly and James A. Ford were sent by the Smithsonian to supervise the work.

The C.W.A. project was discontinued on February 1, 1934, but by the co-operation of Miss Gay B. Shepperson, State Administrator of W.P.A., the project was continued under the auspices of the Society for Georgia Archaeology and sponsored by the City of Macon. Work continued under the F.E.R.A. and W.P.A. program.

On February 5, 1934, Honorable Carl Vinson, Representative of the Sixth District in Georgia, introduced a bill to establish Ocmulgee National Park. Since a monument is an area set aside because of outstanding scientific, historic, or prehistoric interest, the Secretary of the Interior suggested that it be established as a monument rather than a park. Congress passed the bill and Ocmulgee National Monument was established by Presidential Proclamation on December 23, 1936, and was placed under the supervision of the National Park Service.

The Macon Junior Chamber of Commerce deeded the lands purchased by it to the United States. All other lands designated as necessary by the National Park Service were purchased by the citizens of Macon through the Macon Historical Society and deeded to the United States government.

Excavation was begun in 1933 and continued through 1937. Relief labor was used and from 300 to 500 men worked daily. Over 1,000,000 relics have been uncovered, marked, catalogued, and stored. With the termination of the emergency relief program, construction work was stopped and the Monument is now only about 65 per cent complete. Under the legislative enactments of the Park Service no appropriation for such work is available.

5. Charles C. Jones, Jr., Antiquities of the Southern Indians, D. Appleton & Co., New York, 1873

Established as a memorial to Georgia Indians and for the purpose of preserving the remains of Central Georgia's earliest inhabitants, the Monument has the distinction of being the largest archeological monument east of the Mississippi river and the largest archeological project ever carried on in the United States. To it collections from more than fifty archeological sites throughout the state have been brought for study. It was visited last year by over 30,000 people representing forty-five states and three foreign countries. Because of the great variety in the types of its remains and the vast span of time indicated between the findings of the earliest and latest period, M. W. Stirling, Chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology of the Smithsonian Institution, considers this one of the four most interesting archeological sites east of the Rocky Mountains.

Since it is of national significance and because it is our only key to prehistoric Macon, The Ocmulgee National Monument merits detailed consideration.

Ocmulgee National Monument is divided into two portions. The larger, containing 638 acres, lies in a series of bluffs, rolling and extensive on top, bordering the Ocmulgee on the southwest. Upon



Ocmulgee National Monument Museum And Administration Building
Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones.



Approach To The Ceremonial Earth Lodge
Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones.

this tableland, called The Macon Plateau, are located the remains of several ancient Indian civilizations in the form of prehistoric mounds, an elaborate fortification system, a ceremonial earth lodge, a cultivated field buried beneath a mound, an historic trading post, and a few burial areas. South and east of this area, about two and one-half

miles down the river, is the detached Lamar portion, a forty-acre tract which was the site of another interesting Indian village and mound group. These features, with a combination administration and museum building and a network of trails, make up the Monument.

The Museum and Administration Building, of extreme modern architecture, is only partially complete. In its rotunda is a temporary display of relics left by Indians who inhabited the fields from about 1200 to about 1715. These are grouped according to the periods of occupation and are so arranged as to give a simple interpretation of this phase of Indian history. Offices, storage rooms, and a lecture room occupy the lower floor of the building. When the Museum is completed, a library, laboratory, and study collections housed in fireproof storage will be added. Also included in the original plans for the rotunda is a gallery from which the visitor will look down upon a huge bronze statue of an Indian, central decoration of the entrance.

Ceremonial Earth Lodge

One of the most impressive displays at Ocmulgee is the Ceremonial Earth Lodge, which represents the earliest Earth Lodge so far reported in the Southeast, and is believd to be about 800 years old. Remains of eight earth lodges in the Ocmulgee area and of one on Brown's Mount, about five miles southeast of the Macon Plateau were found. A comparative study of these was made by Charles H. Fairbanks and printed in *American Antiquity*. Only the lodge in Mound "D" area was completely explored and restored.

Except for a slight elevation there was no surface indication of a building on this knoll. It was covered with weeds and stumps, but had been plowed extensively around the edges. In the Fall of 1934, an exploratory trench was started across the area and soon intersected a rising shoulder of red clay. As the center of the mound was approached, the red clay suddenly dropped away to form a vertical wall, the inner face of which was slightly burned. Horizontal stripping exposed a circular structure, forty-two feet in diameter, surrounded by the remains of a low clay wall. Then the men with great care worked inside the wall, using small tools such as camel's hair brushes and whisk brooms. This led to discovery of the charred timbers and reeds of the original roof. Excavation was continued until the floor was reached, the charred timber being left in place under a temporary shelter for about two years for students and other visitors to examine. Thus the remaining features—packed clay floor, eagle effigy platform, fire bowl, and seats—were revealed.

The Earth Lodge was restored after long and careful study of the remains of the original and of similar structures in other areas. With a few variations, it stands today an exact duplicate of the original.



Ceremonial Earth Lodge As It Appeared During Excavation
Courtesy National Park Service.

Some of the charred timbers were sent to the University of Michigan, where Dr. Volney A. Jones, an ethnobotanist, determined the kinds of timbers used. Those used in the restored lodge are of the same type and measurements and were burned by blow-torch to give the original effect. The entrance today is slightly higher; the overhead rafters, though modeled on the original ones, are built inside a steel reinforced concrete dome; the light above the fire bowl is furnished by electric lights shining through a ground glass, simulating the daylight furnished by the original smoke outlet. Only in the exterior does the chamber depart from the original.

The entrance passage, a tunnel 2.2 feet wide and 26.2 feet long is walled with posts and woven reed matting. This leads to the circular room, which is believed to have been used for tribal councils and religious ceremonies. This room is enclosed by a low red clay wall and the floor is of yellow clay, that was obviously brought up from the river, packed, and allowed to dry before the roof was built. The floor, as well as all other original portions of the building, has been treated with a solution of alvar in acetone to prevent further cracking.

The roof, supported by four thick posts, is made of log beams and reed thatch with an opening in the center.

The gray clay moulded seats around the inner circumference of the chamber are a most unusual feature. These have not been found in any ceremonial building in the Southeastern United States except in this area and at Brown's Mount. There are fifty of these seats—twenty-four on the south side, twenty-three on the north, and three on the platform. They vary in size and are separated from each other by a raised clay partition. The three largest, believed to have been occupied by the chief, who sat in the center with the medicine man on one side and the chief warrior on the other, are on the platform.

In front of each seat is a small pan-shaped depression. Some authorities believe that these receptacles were used for fire, but, since no trace of fire was evident in the clay, the theory that each warrior placed his medicine bundle here seems the more plausible.

The entrance faces east, but, since this was not the invariable case in the other Macon Plateau lodges, it is presumed that position within the village rather than compass direction determined this location. Directly opposite the entrance is a large, packed clay platform shaped



The Council Chamber Restored
Courtesy National Park Service.

to represent an eagle. This is another unusual feature of the lodge. Indians greatly admired the speed, strength, and fierceness of the eagle, and eagle symbolism is common in their culture. This effigy is sixteen feet long, fourteen feet wide, and varies in height from nine to twelve inches. The head is to the east and the beak points to the south.

In the center of the chamber is a fire bowl. It is one foot deep and about 4.5 feet in diameter. Directly above the fire bowl was the outlet for smoke.

Earth lodges similar to this but none exactly like it have been found throughout the Southeast and in the plains of Nebraska, Missouri, and the Dakotas.

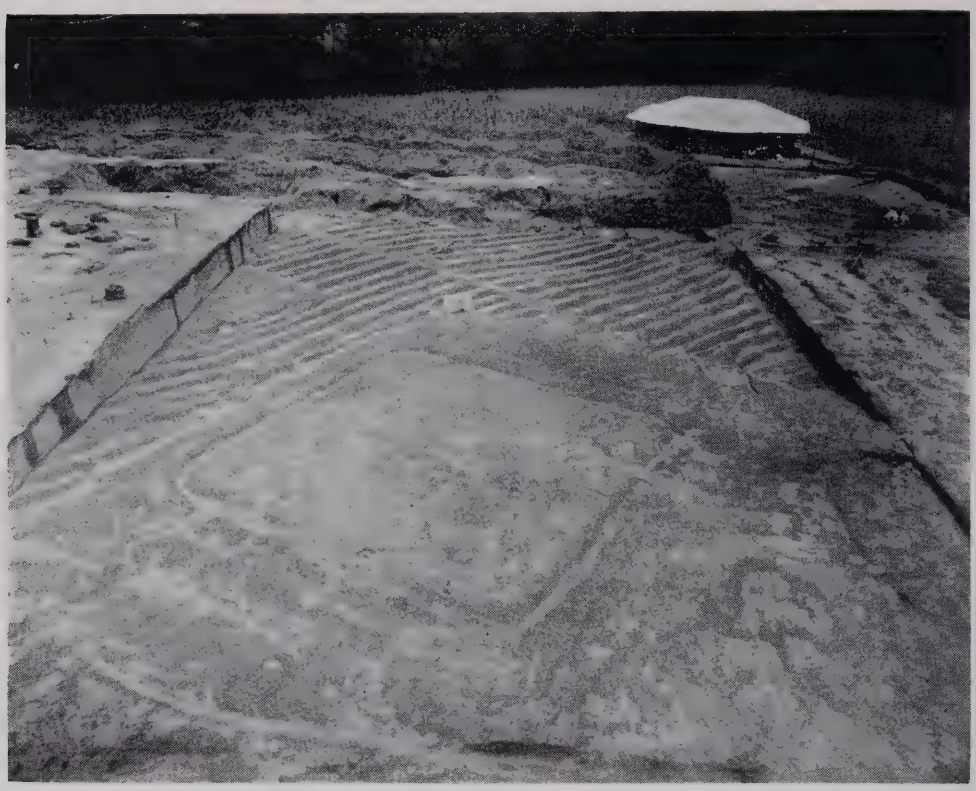
Prehistoric Dugouts or Fortifications

During the excavations in 1935 and 1936, two long series of large pitlike structures were uncovered along the upper slope contour and rim of the Macon Plateau. These prehistoric pits are long, oval excavations carved out of the clay, fifteen to twenty feet wide, twenty-five to sixty feet long, and three to eleven feet deep. There is a strong probability that the entire hilltop was once completely enclosed by these chains of linked dugouts. Five distinct levels of soil accumulation were discovered in them. The first was simply the sand and clay accumulation of the past 150 years. From fourteen to twenty-four inches below this, the second level produced European trade material and historic Creek pottery. The next layer produced a light tan weathered loam, which continued into the fourth level. The soil in the fifth, or basic, level was compact clay. In every level pottery and flint were found. Thousands of artifacts and much Indian pottery accumulated in these trench-like pits as generation after generation lived on the Plateau. Some burials were found and some post holes, indicating that at least a portion of the trenches may have been covered.

Three main theories concerning the use of these dugouts have been advanced. The first, most unlikely, is that they were borrow pits, representing the quarrying activities of the Indians. A later view was to regard them as cellars of a long series of pit house residences encircling the plateau. The third theory, most favored by the archeologists, is that they were trench-like fortifications. Both the interior of the trenches and the earth itself have been sodded to prevent erosion.

Cultivated Fields

Near the point where the innermost line of prehistoric fortifications cuts through in front of the Ceremonial Earth Lodge is the half-explored remnant of a low, flat mound, Mound "D". Beneath this



Prehistoric Cultivated Field

Courtesy National Park Service.

mound, the excavators uncovered in 1935 one of the most valuable discoveries of the project, a series of parallel rows of prehistoric cultivated field, preserved for hundreds of years by the sand and clay of the mound built over it. This is the largest and best preserved plot of cultivated ground belonging to prehistoric American agriculture. It is valuable also because it shows a clear picture of vertical strategraphy—the position of one layer of occupation above another.

Since corn is the chief staple crop of the American Indian and since charred corncobs were found in pits and near remains of Indian houses in the Mound "D" area, it is presumed that this was a corn field. This field does not conform to the individual-hill pattern of cultivation which the first white settlers found the Indians employing. Rather, it shows definite rows, paralleling one another. This does conform to the description given by Adair, one of our earliest authorities on Indian civilization. "They planted their corn in straight rows, putting five to six grains in one hole about two inches distant. They covered this with clay in the form of a small hill. Each row is a yard asunder and in the vacant ground they planted pumpkins, melons, marsh-

melows, sun flowers, and sundry sorts of beans and peas, the last two of which yield a large increase.[6]

An area approximately seventy-five by fifty feet was uncovered. The unexcavated portion lies under the part of Mound "D" which is not excavated. The field is now covered with sand and tarpaulins for protection against the weather. When work is resumed and a method of display determined, a part of the field will be uncovered.

The Mounds

Upon the Macon Plateau are seven prehistoric mounds, which have been named "A", "B", "C", "D", "E", "McDougal", and "Dunlap". The first five are so designated for convenience, the sixth for an army officer who was at one time stationed at Fort Hawkins and was buried in one of the mounds, and the seventh for the previous owners of the property where the mound stands.

On the south end of the Plateaus is Mound "A", know also as The Ceremonial Mound and called by Bartram "the great tetragon". Its flattened summit rises forty feet above the plateau level. Although damaged by erosion, it is still, according to Dr. Kelly, one of the largest mound pyramids in the United States and "an awe-inspiring monument to the industry and engineering of the prehistoric mound builders."[7]

To avoid cutting away the mound, the workers sank a shaft from the top. At a depth of eighteen feet they found a clay platform with lines of post molds indicating a large house site. This mound has not been extensively excavated, because heavy rains had undermined parts of the sand body in its interior. But the evidence of the parts explored showed that it was built in successive stages and that large buildings had been constructed on top of each successive mound. Profiles cut into the mound's side uncovered traces of house sites and refuse pits that indicated occupation by Indians pre-dating the mound builders. It is not known how long it took the Indians to build this mound, but we do know that the only means they had of transporting clay was in baskets. We can assume, then, that its construction entailed arduous labor over a period of many years.

Sloping down from the southeast side of Mound "A", is a series of four artificial terraces, whose purposes could have been a landscaping device or a fortified ramp to protect the plateau. By cutting exploratory trenches through the slopes of these terraces, archeologists found that they were artificial and that they were built over pits found in the

6. Adair as quoted in Ocmulgee Guide Manual, Op. Cit., p. 13.
7. The Macon Guide and Ocmulgee National Monument. Workers of The Writers' Program of The Works Progress Administration in The State of Georgia, The J. W. Burke Company, 1939, p. 72.



The Ceremonial Mound
Courtesy National Park Service.

large trench described above. Remains of houses—some circular, others rectangular—were also found in this area.

Fifty feet from Mound "A" stands Mound "B", about nine feet high and seventy feet wide. Three fifths of this mound was cut away by railroad excavations. The exposed profile left by this railroad cut shows that it, too, was built in stages. About three feet from the top a heavy band of red clay runs through the mound. Its middle section has slumped markedly, filling in a large excavation, which archeologists think had been either a pit house or an underground lodge.

Mound "C"—inaccurately called "the Burial Mound"—is west of the Council Chamber at the edge of the Central of Georgia railroad cut. This cut, made in 1841, sliced away about half of the mound and left it in cross section. The brilliant colors of its layers so intrigued the archeologists that they began their first work here. It proved to be one of the richest sources of material. This material revealed that the mound is quite old, pre-dating the journey of De Soto in 1540, and that it is a composition of five successive mounds, built one upon another, constructed in separate stages during different occupations. But the whole mound—in all five stages—is prehistoric. Thus in this mound was found a continuous thread of Indian culture ranging from the prehistoric relics of the sub-mound level to the later villagers who used the mound for their burials. The mound was originally 250 feet long and thirty feet high. The main portion of each of the five mounds was composed of basket-laid sand, and a colorful mosaic of clay bands

covered the summit and slopes. The colors of the lower bands ranged from yellow to blue and bluish-yellow to slate-gray, but the topmost was a three-foot band of brilliant red clay. Post molds and other materials found on top of each mound showed that some sort of structure had been built on each summit.

A clay-molded stairway of fourteen steps led from the ground level to the summit of the first, or core, mound. The steps, about six feet wide, were well worn by the tread of generations of Indians. The structure of the mound itself and of the stairway is rare in American Indian Archeology.

Found in the red clay soil of the plateau level beneath the earliest of the five mounds comprising Mound "C" were six tombs, the earliest burials in this region. These primitive people followed the custom of "secondary burial", in which the bodies were allowed to decompose, the skin and flesh stripped off, and the bones wrapped in skin or bark bundles, and buried. Many shell and bone beads, bone needles, awls, shell pendants, and ear plugs were found in the tombs, but not many flint or pottery artifacts.

In the sides of the later levels were found more burials, many of



Indian Skeleton With Bells
Courtesy National Park Service.

them of secondary type, containing beads and pottery. In the outer—most recent—mound levels, burials were found in which beads, knives, and brass trinkets were discovered, showing that these Indians had traded with Europeans.

Mound "C" was not completely explored, but the profile revealing its layered construction and the stairway are to be preserved as a part of the Monument when preservative chemicals are available. A wooden shed has been built over this mound for temporary protection.

Mound "D", one of the less important mounds, is an almost oval square 150 feet long, 125 feet wide, but only eight feet high. Originally square, it was made of white or tan-colored sand, covered with a fourteen-inch surface of red clay, that served to prevent erosion. On the flat top had been erected a series of three public buildings, probably the residences of the chieftains. The floors and post molds of these houses were unearthed to show their outlines. A number of interments found in its sides show that this mound was used as a burial place by Indians who came at a period later than that of the ancient mound-builders' occupation.

From the evidence found during the excavation of the McDougal Mound, archeologists infer that it was built over a collapsed house. This structure was probably a temple or ceremonial building and the mound must have served as a commemorative structure. Mound "E" and the Dunlap mound, neither of which is a part of the display at Ocmulgee, probably served the same purpose as the McDougal Mound.

Four springs at the foot of the Middle Plateau served the prehistoric Indians as a source of water, but, due to changes in the water table and to erosion, the spring has been choked up.

Historic Trading Post

In 1936, the archeologists discovered a five-sided enclosure which they infer was a trading post, established among the Indians during the closing years of the seventeenth century by English traders working out of Charleston, South Carolina. The enclosure was worked out in its entirety, the size and shape being determined by the excavation. The broad, base side facing the river is 140 feet long. Two short sides or legs, set at right angles to the base, extend forty feet southeast. The two remaining sides, 100 feet, converge to form a triangle or gabled point directed southeast. Inside these five walls were two rectangular areas of dark soil, indicating the decay of numerous logs. These were probably the remains of log cabins, which were used either for store rooms or living quarters for the traders. The walls of the Post were set in a ditch or trench, and posts were probably set in the ditch to form a stockade. There were two breaks in the ditch at the front, implying the presence of a gate to the Post from the river



Historic Trading Post

Courtesy National Park Service.

approach. Another structural feature of importance was a moat-like trench which ran parallel to four of the five sides—not around the broad or base side. The exact relation of this ditch to the Trading Post is not known, but it might have served as a fortification.

Another interesting feature associated with the Trading Post is an old beaten trail that terminated in front of the entrance to the Post. This trail is from nine to eight feet wide and has been followed at fifty-foot intervals for about three-quarters of a mile across the Monument. It is possible that this trail is the "Old Traders' Path" referred to by Benjamin Hawkins, Indian Agent for the United States government among the Creeks.

Both in and around the enclosure were found burials of Indians of all ages and sexes, associated with European trade artifacts and objects of Indian manufacture. Some of these burials have been covered with concrete shelters with glass panes and comprise one of the Monuments most popular displays.

In addition to the burials in and around the enclosure, there were numerous indications of house sites in the form of broad oval wall

continuities traced out from post-hole alignments. In the center of these small houses large domestic pits were found, and from their fill generous quantities of pottery, animal bones, flint scrap, and scattered European objects were taken. In addition to the house pits were numerous refuse pits. The quantity of European trade materials found indicated a large population of historic Indians living around a trading post, which seemed at a later day to have been partially fortified.

The historic Trading Post presents one of Ocmulgee's most interesting finds; for, although the archeological data present irrefutable proof of the existence of such a post, historical research has not at this time completely substantiated the discovery. In order to find historical documentation for the existence of this Ocmulgee Trading Post, Louis Friedlander, a student technician of Columbia University, was assigned the task of examining the archives and colonial records at Columbia, South Carolina. Sixteen volumes of the *Calendar of State Papers for the period* (1690-1715) were examined but yielded no specific information on the subject. Considerable material to corroborate strongly the inference that such a post could have existed at Ocmulgee was found and it seems safe to accept the Monument's assumption that it was built and occupied between 1690 and 1715 by English traders under the leadership of Governor Nathaniel Johnson, of South Carolina.

Lamar

Two and one-half miles down the river, in the swamps on the east bank, is that part of the Ocmulgee National Monument known as The Lamar Mounds and Village Site. This area exactly fits Bartram's description of "an ancient Creek village".

Standing in the center of the village site about 200 yards apart are two mounds, about twenty feet high and 100 feet wide. These are called Lamar Mounds "A" and "B". Mound "B", with its truncated top and its spiral path running counter-clockwise from the ground level to the summit, is the only such structure described in American archeological writings. Encircling the base, is the collar, formed by a slight ridge of earth, and on the top are surface indications of a building that the Park Service hopes to reconstruct. Otherwise, this mound will be preserved in its present state.

The pyramided Mound "A" also has a truncated summit, from which we infer that it too was the site of a temple or ceremonial building. Examination of a very small cross-section showed that this mound was built in at least two stages.

Small elevations in the surrounding meadows proved to be house sites. One of them, completely excavated, revealed details of structure and much about the daily life of the villagers. The house was built of

small sapling timbers inserted upright in puddled blue-clay floors. Material found on the floors indicated that the irregularly spaced wall posts had been thatched with cane and that the thatched roof had been covered by a thin layer of reddish clay loam. These houses, twenty to thirty-five feet wide and flimsily built, rested on an artificial clay mound. A wealth of pottery, flint implements, and greenstone were found on the floors. These, with a pot of charred beans and piles of burned corncobs, led archeologists to the theory that the houses were hurriedly abandoned during a fire. They have also concluded that these were inhabited at a different time from the occupation of the Macon Plateau villages and by people who lived a life similar to that of the Seminole Indians of the Everglades.

History

After four years of exploration of mounds and village sites and intensive study of the vast collections uncovered from them, Dr. Kelly submitted "A Preliminary Report on Archeological Explorations at Macon, Georgia."[8] In this report he tentatively identified six successive levels of occupation, extending from the undated era of the pre-mound-building Indians to 1821, the year in which the land was ceded to Georgia.

The most ancient is represented by the primitive flint implements that were found in the lowest levels of the Plateau soil. The absence of pottery or any indication of agriculture supports the theory that these Indians lived here at a remote date, long before the mound-builders.

On the Macon Plateau at least two types of ordinary residences and of public buildings have been distinguished. Also, the extensive prehistoric trench system near Mound "A" shows a deliberate filling of the pits by the mound builders. Because of these facts, Dr. Kelly includes in his cultural sequence two separate Macon Plateau occupations of this early phase. The Indians who built the pits are identified with the older, Macon Plateau I Period, and the mound-building Indians with Macon Plateau II Period. These comprise the second and third levels. The fourth period is only partly represented at Macon and is named the Early Muskhogean Period. Evidence of this occupation is found in the early types of stamped pottery found in deep archeological levels. This pottery shows a more primitive treatment than that found at Lamar and justifies the assumption that it represents an earlier development.

The fifth occupation is identified as the Middle Muskhogean Period, and it has been fairly well established that the Indians of the Lamar lowlands belonged to this occupation. The excellence and distinctive-

8. Anthropological Papers, No. 1, Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 119.

ness of their arts and industries show that their civilization had blossomed fully. The profusion of design, elaborateness of detail, and boldness of execution shown in their pottery; their house building, and town planning—all show an advanced evolutionary stage. From these observations, the archeologists infer that these Indians must have been living in this area a long time and had become well adapted to their environment. It is generally believed that these were the Hitchiti tribes and that they had been living along the Ocmulgee hundreds of years before the coming of the Creeks. Ethnological studies indicate that, although they had divergent customs, they were of the same linguistic stock as the Creeks and were of Muskhogean origin. These tribes were either driven out or absorbed by the Creek Indians.

The Late Muskhogean was the last of the six major cultural developments. Evidences of this period are the most recent cultural levels, in which the materials found represent the historic phase tentatively identified as that of the Creek Indians. Indian artifacts of late workmanship, the foundation of the trading post, in which were found glass trade beads, pipe stems, guns, pistols, and many other materials of historic times are all relics of this occupation.

However, in the current literature and displays, the Monument employs a simpler classification and assigns approximate dates. This classification includes four main occupations that have occurred from 1200 to 1715. Only the historic Creeks are known by name; hence, local site names have been applied to the three prehistoric cultures.

The first occupation level shows two contemporaneous cultures, and these have been named Mossey Oak and Swift Creek (1250-1350). The Mossey Oak people occupied the New England and Atlantic States region. During the Swift Creek period, they gradually invaded the South from the Northeast. Their pottery and stone tools are very similar to those found in Virginia and North Carolina. These Indians lived in small temporary villages throughout this region. The general pattern of their life was very similar to that of the Swift Creek Indians. "About 800 years ago Indians now termed Swift Creek, (local site name) settled this pleasant, game stocked country. One of these settlements was near the spot where the large Ceremonial Mound (Mound "A") now stands. These Indians left no mounds on Ocmulgee National Monument, however they did build mounds along Swift Creek, located about five miles southeast of the Monument. Their old village site on Ocmulgee produced many distinctive tools and utensils, including some of the most beautifully decorated pottery ever made by the Southern Indians. They were replaced or driven out by a stronger tribe, the Macon Plateau Indians, sometimes called the Mississippians, who probably came from the Tennessee and Ken-

tucky region around the year 1350. These Indians built the huge mounds, the fortified village, the Ceremonial Earth Lodge, and cultivated the fertile fields nearby. They were probably unmolested for a time, possibly one hundred and fifty years. This long peaceful occupation probably accounts for the wealth of material left by this interesting group of mound builders. In all likelihood this Macon village flourished until, finally (about 1500) the Hitchiti, later a branch of the powerful Creek Confederacy, came from the West to occupy the Monument site. After wandering for some time throughout Georgia the Creeks returned to this spot, known to historians as Old Ocmulgee Fields, and continued to live on the banks of the Ocmulgee until about 1715 carrying on an extensive trade with the early white settlers. After the Yamasee Wars in 1715 the Creeks returned to their old grounds on the Chattahoochee. However, there were a few in this vicinity in 1806 when Colonel Benjamin Hawkins established Fort Hawkins, and some as late as 1822."[9]

9. Bryan, Ibid., p. 5.

Chapter II

MACON'S ORIGIN

Fort Hawkins was the nucleus from which Macon grew. Although the fort was established three decades after the Nation's birth, the conditions which led to its founding are to be sought in the economic and military pressures of colonial and early Georgia history. Shaping, often dominating, this history were the Indians of the Creek Confederacy. In tracing Macon's beginnings, it is necessary, then, to consider three factors: the Creek Indians, the period of exploration and colonization, and the Fort Hawkins period.

The Creek Indians

Of the Indian nations east of the Mississippi, occupying this and adjacent territories at the beginning of the Eighteenth Century, the dominant ones were: the Uchees; the Lower, Middle, and Upper Creeks—constituting the Moskogee Confederacy; the Yamassees; the Cherokees; the Choctaws; the Natchez; and the Seminoles. Because the land that later became Macon belonged to the Creeks and because they were a powerful force in this section not only during the period of colonization but as late as The War of 1812, it is with these tribes that we are chiefly concerned. The name of the Creek Indians, unlike that of most Indian tribes, is of English origin. The historic Indians found here by the English were first called Ochese Creek Indians, because the Ocmulgee River was at that time called the Ochese Creek. This was soon shorted to Creek. The dominant tribe, that which constituted the largest portion numerically and from which came the crystallizing force that united them, was the Muskogee. The names "Creek" and "Muskogee" are thus used interchangeably, although such a practice is not entirely accurate.

Origin

Concerning the origin of the different tribes comprising the Creek Confederacy there is some doubt. Since the origin myths of the Muskogee reveal both the naivete of the people and some element of truth, it will be interesting to consider some of them.

The earliest was given to Governor Oglethorpe by one Chekilli, emperor of the Upper and Lower Creeks. His speech, delivered at

Savannah in 1735 was: "At a certain time the Earth opened and the Cussitaws came out of its mouth and settled near by. But the Earth became angry and ate up their children; therefore, they moved further West. A part of them, however, turned back, and came again to the same place where they had been and settled there. The greater number remained behind, because they thought it best to do so. Their children, nevertheless, were eaten by the Earth, so that, full of dissatisfaction, they journeyed toward the sunrise."[1]

Ispahihtea, a former chief of the Creek Nation, gives another interesting legend: "Some people anciently lived together in the West. In course of time they became so evil that they could find nothing pure in the world except the sun and they determined to travel eastward to find the place from whence it came. On the way they became separated into three bodies: the Chickasaw, the Kasihta, and the Coweta."[2]

General LeClerc Milfort, an educated Frenchman, who claims to have lived with the Creek Indians from 1776 to 1796 and who had great power among them through his marriage to the sister of McGillivray, wrote memoirs of the Creeks, which, though exaggerated, seem essentially true. According to his account, when Cortez and his Spanish troops invaded Mexico in 1519 and killed Montezuma, the Muskogee, who had formed a separate republic in the northwest of Mexico, determined to abandon the land. They marched to the source of the Red River, where they made a settlement and lived tranquilly for many years. They were discovered by the Albamos or Alibamons, who killed many of their people. They then left their settlement to pursue the Alibamons, whom they followed to the Missouri River. They defeated them many times, following them to the Mississippi, where they again fought and defeated them. They then advanced to the Ohio River and fixed their dwelling in what is known as the Yazau country. The Muskogee warriors learned that the land which their enemy now occupied was toward the rising sun in "a region where the rigors of winter are little felt, and where a great quantity of game of all kinds is to be found, and resolved to pursue them a third time. With this object in view, they crossed the river Cumberland and the Tennessee and followed from the north the river Coosa on the banks of which the remaining Alibamons had established themselves. . . They (the Alibamons) abandoned their position and scattered. . . The Moskoquis, no longer finding enemies to fight, took peaceful possession of the country which they had just conquered. They established themselves on the rivers Coosa, Tallapoosa, Chatta-

1. John R. Swanton, Social Organization and Social Usages of the Indians of the Creek Confederacy, Forty-Second Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology to the Smithsonian Institute, U. S. Printing Office, Washington, 1928; p 34.
2. Ibid, pp. 80-109.

hoochee, Flint, Ocmulgee, little and great Ogechee, and pushed their settlements as far as the river Savannah in Georgia, where the City of Augusta is now built."[3] Later they made peace with the Alibamons and received them into the confederacy.

Practically all the origin myths reveal a belief in a western origin, which they call "the navel of the world" or "the backbone of the earth" (their name for the Rocky Mountains). Always there is mention of having crossed many waters and having been supernaturally guided by means of a stick which they set up in the ground and which bent itself in the direction they were to take. All the narrators agree that they pushed as far east as "Ocmulgee and that here they were obliged to make a stand for themselves. Having formed for themselves this retreat, and driven off the inhabitants by degrees, they recovered their spirits and again faced their enemies, when they came off victorious in a memorable battle. They afterwards gradually subdued their surrounding enemies by taking into the confederacy the vanquished tribes."[4]

Early writers generally accept the Milfort account and agree that the Creeks settled in Georgia around 1620. Paul Raden sees in Creek culture many affinities to the Aztec and Maya civilization of Mexico and Central America, and concludes that they emigrated eastward from "the melting pot of the nation", the Mississippi. Swanton finds strong evidence to indicate that, although the main body of the Creek Nation did not arrive until much later, the foundation of the confederacy could have been laid as early as 1540. The Ocmulgee Monument chronology is that "Around 1690 the Creek Indians in order to obtain more profitable trade with the English of Carolina, moved eastward from the Chattahoochee and settled on the Upper Ocmulgee."

The Creek Confederacy

The Creek Confederacy consisted of several linguistically related tribes and controlled, in 1733, the land which was bounded on the west by the Mobile River and the ridge along the contested boundary line between the Creeks and the Choctaws, on the northeast by the Savannah River, on the east by the Atlantic, and on the south by the Gulf. In 1733 Oglethorpe reported that the Lower and Upper Creeks had 2,100 warriors, which, specialists say, indicates a total population of about 7,350. At this time, there seem to have been from forty to fifty Creek towns, each one having a population of between 150 and 200.[5] The Confederacy appears to have originated with The

3. Ibid. pp. 44, 45.
4. Bartram, Op Cit, pp. 68, 69.
5. Bryan, Op Cit, p. 20.

Lower Creek towns of Kashita and Coweta. These two and the Upper Creek towns of Tukabahchee and Abihka were regarded as "the foundation towns" of the confederacy. In 1760 the Indian population at "Okmulgee" was approximately 105; in 1822 about 220. In 1832 the Creek Nation numbered about 20,000 and in 1910 there were only 7,000.[6]

No satisfactory study of the organization of the Creek Confederacy has come to us. But from the traditional sources we obtain a general picture. Each tribe had its head chief, or Mico, and these were subordinate to the chief of the confederacy, or Nation. A general assembly of the chiefs met each May in the principal village to consider all matters of importance to the Confederacy. In principle, the form of their government seems to have been a tyrannical oligarchy, for the council of chiefs had unlimited power. Indians who had broken the law suffered without murmur beating, confiscation of property, or even death. Within each town, a chief was chosen from a certain clan to act as civic head. This honor was always conferred by issue of the female line, since divorce was by mutual consent and few women had more than two children by the same father. The chief controlled the public granaries, appointed the times for planting and harvesting, fixed the date of festivals, demanded labor for public work, declared war, made peace, and executed sentences. Next to the chief was a warrior chief, who was selected at large from the various clans. Finally, was the chief priest. Together these formed the council of chiefs, which convened each day at forenoon in the public square. Within the winter and summer council houses, great homage and respect were paid the chief, but outside, his intercourse with his subjects was cordial and free from constraint.

Milfort gave a full description of the Creek village. In each town was a public square. In each angle of the square were three cabins of different sizes, forming in all twelve cabins. Each cabin held from forty to sixty persons and all were built close together. That of the mico was first in rank and faced the rising sun. At one side was a grand cabin, where general assemblies were held. In the angle opposite were three other cabins, which belonged to the old men of the tribe and which faced the setting sun—a position symbolic of their waning years. In the two other angles were the cabins of the lesser chiefs. All cabins were painted red. Jones adds to his description of the public square such devils as the chunky[7] grounds, obelisk poles, and slave posts, to which captives were bound for torture.

6. Ibid.

7. See Occupations and Amusements.

The People

In physical appearance the Creeks were imposing. They were tall, erect, and robust. Their features were regular; their complexion a reddish, brown copper; and their hair coarse and black. The Creek women were rather short of stature, but well formed. Before they began trading with Europeans, the Creeks had scanty clothing, made mostly of skins. The men and women wore moccasins in the winter and went barefoot in mild weather. The men wore a loin cloth, which was drawn through the belt and hung down in front and back about half way to the knees. The men wore no upper clothing except in cold weather, when they used a skin cape around their shoulders. The head bands, decorated with beads and feathers, were worn on special occasions. The women wore either a short skirt from the waist to the knees, or a diagonal cloak thrown over one shoulder, reaching to the knees, usually leaving the right shoulder bare. Before a woman married, she wore her hair long, hanging down her back. After marriage, she arranged it in a neat knot on the back of her neck. Indian men kept their hair short except for a single lock in front. The women and perhaps the men wore heavy ear spools. Both sexes were tattooed. Children went naked until they were fourteen or fifteen years old. Later, the Indians adopted the white settlers' manner of dress.

The Creek Indians were a proud, haughty race. They were brave in war, ambitious of conquest, restless in temperament, hospitable to strangers, and magnanimous to their vanquished foes. With the exception of the Yamassees, they never exterminated a tribe, but received defeated enemies into their confederacy, giving them all rights of membership.

Occupations and Amusements

The Creeks were good fighters, farmers, hunters, trappers, and builders. "Their farming and gardening were carried on in an interesting manner. A town-field or plot was laid out and different families assigned separate plots of ground. No fence separated the several family areas and each family tended its own particular plot. The women did most of the agricultural work, using stone, shell, and wooden tools until they began trading with the white settlers. Their principal crops were corn, beans, squash, pumpkins, and tobacco. The white settlers introduced other vegetables and fruits."[8]

More important than farming was fighting. War expeditions were usually undertaken early in the spring, and lasted until late summer. Before setting off, the warriors went through a ritual of fasting and purification. The Creek warrior fought almost naked with half his face

8. Bryan, Op Cit., p. 22.

painted red and half black. His chief weapons were bows and arrows, knives, tomahawks, and war clubs. In the arts of strategy, ambuscade, deception, and personal concealment the Creeks excelled.

Hunting and ball play were close rivals for second place in the esteem of the Creek. Their games were of a type to develop strength, speed, and skill. Many forms of ball were played. In one game they used nets or sticks to pass the ball from one player to another. Another favorite game was chunky (chungke), which was played in an area of the public square set aside for this purpose. In this game, two persons threw a slender stick at a disc used as a "taw", and the winner was the one whose stick fell nearest the disc. Sometimes arrows were used instead of sticks, and the spectators enjoyed betting on the results. "Parchisi" and "Hit the Pole" were enjoyed by the women and girls.

Customs

The family life of the Creek was similar to that of many other Indian tribes. After marriage, a man was taken into his wife's home. The marriage had to be renewed each year to be binding, and polygamy was sometimes practiced with the consent of the first wife, to whom all others were subordinate. (When a man took other wives, they were usually the sisters of his first wife.) When a man died, his wife remained a widow for four years, when her husband's family chose for her another husband. The children belonged to the mother and were reared by her oldest brother, who was responsible for their education. A man had no authority in his own home, but much in that of his sister. The children were segregated when they were around thirteen years old. The girls were then controlled by the older women and the boys by the older men. Each clan had an old man who went from house to house teaching the boys and girls. The education was chiefly physical. Although women had an inferior position, all drudgery was not left to them. They cooked and manufactured pottery, mats, baskets, moccasins, and tunics.

The religion of the Creek centered around the sun, which was regarded as the symbol of the power and beneficence of the Great Spirit; and around maize, animals, and fire. They erected temples for sun-worship and kept the sacred fire eternally burning. They worshipped virtues such as strength, speed, and cunning; and any bird or animal symbolizing these was revered by them and given an important part in their ceremonies. They believed in the immortality of the soul and placed in the graves of their dead articles that they thought might be useful in the next world. Some tribes even sacrificed their own members upon the death of their chief. The Happy Hunting Ground they pictured as a warm, pleasant country which abounded in

forests, rivers, and game. Here the Supreme Spirit meted out punishments and rewards.

The principal ceremony of the Creek was the Busk, or harvest feast—a series of rites and dances, which began in August when the crops of corn had reached maturity, and which lasted for seven days. The top layer of the soil from the public square was cleared off and heaped in a pile. The lodges around the public square were repaired and put in order. Pleasure dances completed the first day's activities. Very important in this festival was the preparing and drinking of the "Black Drink", an emetic, which served as a propitiatory purification to the maize deity. When the ceremony of the emetic was over, the town chief cleared the pile of ashes in the center of the public square and kindled a new fire. With great solemnity, the women carried a portion to their own hearths. This possessed for the Creek a deep religious significance—the beginning of a new year, when personal differences were effaced and a new season of friendship and peace was begun. Many other ceremonies were celebrated in connection with war, peace, and sickness.

Such were the people who lived in central and southern Georgia when the first white settlers came to build their villages and forts. Let us now consider who these explorers and settlers were and how their encroachments affected the Creeks.

Exploration and Colonization

One thousand years after the birth of Christ, Lief Ericson discovered America and a new race of men. An old Norse saga recounts the meeting which some of Ericson's companions had when they set out three years later to explore the land. "One morning early when they looked about them, they saw a great number of skin-canoes, and staves were brandished from the boats with a noise like flails, and they were revolved in the same direction in which the sun moves. . . In these boats were seated swarthy and ill-looking men; the hair of their heads was ugly. They had great eyes and were broad of cheek."[9] A later and less authentic saga extends the Norse reconaissance of America as far South as the Straits of Florida, but this dramatic meeting somewhere between Labrador and New England is the first recorded encounter of European and Indian.

More familiar to every American is the story of Spanish discovery and exploration. In 1492 Columbus discovered a new world. Twenty-one years later Ponce de Leon, returning to explore the land to the north, which the Indians called Bimini, landed on Easter Sunday on the main land, and named it, for that reason, Florida. Although he

9. Paul Raden, The Story of the American Indians, Garden City Publishing Co., Inc., Garden City, N. Y., 1937, p. 29.

neither conquered the natives, nor found a fountain of youth, nor established a colony; he did give to the land the name by which it was known for over a century. In 1520, an expedition was sent out by Lucas Vasquez de Ayllon from the island of San Domingo. This expedition landed on the coast of what is now South Carolina, near the present site of Port Royal. Four years later he commissioned a second expedition under the command of Pedro de Quexos. He and his men explored the Atlantic coast for many miles, including the present coast of Georgia. At about the same time, the king of Spain sent another expedition under the command of Stephen Gomez to search for a western passage through the continent south of Newfoundland and Labrador. Gomez proved that Florida and the land noted by the De Ayllon expedition were parts of the same continent discovered by Ponce de Leon. From his report, a map was prepared in 1529, the first map that shows knowledge of the Georgia coast.

More important to Georgia and to Macon was the expedition of Hernando de Soto, for he was undoubtedly the first white man to march through the forests and cross the rivers of inland Georgia. Glowing, if somewhat colored, accounts of the march have been left by the Spanish chroniclers. Scholars have long studied these accounts, seeking to identify the Indian towns with modern places and thus establish definite knowledge of the route. Markers throughout the state commemorate the supposed route; but historians have never been able to establish conclusively the exact places De Soto visited.[10] It is certain that he set out in 1540 from a point near modern Tallahassee, entered the land that later became Georgia from its southwestern corner, marched in a northeasterly direction, and stopped for some time at an Indian village somewhere between the present Augusta and South Carolina (probably at the site of Silver Bluff). Here the Indians showed him a Spanish dagger and rosary, which historians think were left by De Allyon's second expedition. On the whole, his march through Georgia was peaceful, although he did repay Indian cordiality by plundering temples, despoiling graves, and seizing escorts. Leaving Silver Bluff, he proceeded up the Savannah River for some distance and at a point believed to be in the present county of Habersham, turned westward and crossed northern Georgia to the Indian village where the city of Rome now stands. Leaving Georgia in July of 1540, he continued through Alabama and on westward to the Mississippi river, in whose waters he was later buried.

Macon's first historian accepts Pickett's interpretation of the Spanish chronicler, and identifies one of the two towns in the province of Cofaqui as the site of Macon.[11] He affirms that De Soto remained at

10. Local opinion accepts the route traced by Swanton.
11. John C. Butler, Historical Record of Macon and Central Georgia, J. W. Burke and Co., Macon, Ga., 1879, pp. 18 ff.

this village for several days and was furnished by the cazique an escort of 8,000[12] Indians to the province of Queen Cofachique. That the first Christian baptism and the first cannon-firing in the New World occurred here have long been favorite, though unlikely, local traditions. Swanton identifies the site of Macon as the town which was called "Ocute" by the De Soto chroniclers.[13] Both Swanton and the archeologists of the Ocmulgee National Monument place the Hitchiti, first of the local tribes later to be incorporated into the Creek Confederacy, at Old Ocmulgee Fields at the time of the expedition. The official opinion of the Monument is that De Soto crossed the Ocmulgee River thirty-five miles south of the present Macon. Dr. C. C. Harrold, who was one of the citizens most interested in Indian research, believed that the Ocmulgee settlement had been temporarily abandoned in 1540.

Whether De Soto stopped at the site of Macon, passed by it, or only came near it is interesting, though not vital, conjecture. His expedition has significance transcending this point. He was the first to explore the interior of the southern part of the continent; the first to cross important rivers between the Savannah and the Mississippi. Also important is the effect this first cruel contact with the Spanish conquistador must have had upon the Indians. Most significant of all considerations is the fact that in his fruitless quest for gold, De Soto ignored all other forms of wealth. He left no settlements to secure Spain's claim to the land. Hence, when England began two centuries later to extend her settlements southward, she found only a few missions to check her expansion. Thus, for many years before it was colonized, Georgia was the theater of war; for it was the doubtful borderland between French, Spanish, and English settlements.

After the departure of De Soto, this region was left open for the French navigators, who were beginning to explore the islands of the southeastern coast. In 1562, Admiral Coligny sent out a band of Huguenots under the command of John Ribault, who explored our entire sea-coast from the St. John's River to Port Royal, where they built a fort and planted a colony. This fort, called Fort Charles, was soon abandoned. Two years later a second band of Huguenots sent out by Admiral Coligny established a fort, called Fort Caroline, at the mouth of the St. John's River. The small and scattered French settlements were little more than temporary headquarters for the trappers and explorers, but their mere existence so angered Spain that in 1565

12. Obviously, an exaggeration, since one estimate of the total Georgia population at this time was 10,000.
13. Swanton, quoted by Reagin in History of Macon, Supplement to Macon News, July 10, 1929, Ch. 1.

Philip II sent a force under Pedro Menendez de Aviles to assert Spain's claim to the entire southeastern region. After founding St. Augustine and fortifying it, he surprised and murdered the French at Fort Caroline and left a Spanish garrison there. In retaliation the French re-captured the fort and murdered the Spanish garrison, but neither held it nor made any further attempt to settle this part of the coast.

Thus the Spanish were left in control of the Southeast for over a hundred years. Priest and soldier combined to establish a line of missions on the coastal islands that stretched from the St. Mary's River on the south to Port Royal in Carolina on the north. Inland there was a chain of penal settlements from Cumberland Island to the banks of the Chattahoochee, where a mission was planted in the midst of the Lower Creeks. This penetration was strongly opposed by the Indians, and within two years Spanish soldiers and priests were driven back to the coastal islands, where they entrenched themselves against attacks by pirates from the sea and Indians from the interior. Here the Spaniards held sway until the coming of the English to Charleston in 1670.

England's claim to the Southeast was founded on the explorations of the Cabots in 1497 and 1498, but for more than a century no effort had been made to enforce this claim. Although ostensibly under Spanish rule, the land lying along the Atlantic coast between the thirty-sixth and twenty-ninth degrees of north latitude was granted in 1663 by Charles II to eight noblemen, called the Lords Proprietors of Carolina. All the land in the present state of Georgia was included in this grant and was called by the English "Carolina". No attempt to settle the lands west of the Savannah River was made.

After the founding of Charleston in 1670, Spain's hold upon both the coast and the interior was continually weakened. English colonial soldiers forced the Spanish to abandon mission after mission, and the Carolina traders coaxed the Indians away from the Catholic Church by the cheaper price of English goods, winning the Creeks and the Yamassees to at least nominal allegiance. The Indians who were at that time living on the site of Macon played an important role in helping England assert her claim to this land. "In 1702, the traders from Old Ocmulgee Fields under Anthony Dodsworth, known among the Spaniards as Captain Antonio, led a party of Creek warriors to the Flint River and defeated and routed a force of Spanish soldiers and their Indian allies, the 'very strong and valiant' Apalachees. The tradition of Spanish invincibility was ended. The following year the Creeks assembled 1,000 of their warriors who met fifty Carolinians under James Moore at Old Ocmulgee Fields. Together they marched to the Apalachee country, struck the Spanish and Apalachees there,

destroyed the Spanish settlements and missions in what is now South Georgia and northern Florida, killed or captured most of the Apalachees, and drove the rest to shelter under the guns of St. Augustine. This was one of the decisive campaigns of American history. It made the settlement of the Southeast safe for the English."[14]

The South Carolina colony continued to experience difficulties. Her territory in the west was cut off by the French settlers along the Mississippi valley, who continued to incite the Indians against the English. In 1715, moreover, the Yamassee Indians went on the war-path and secured the support of most of the Creek Nation. Two hundred Carolinians were killed and English authority over the Creeks suddenly collapsed. As English control fell, that of Spain proportionately rose.

In 1717, Sir Robert Montgomery secured from The Lords Proprietors of Carolina a grant of land lying between the Savannah and Altamaha Rivers. Glowing accounts of the settlement, which was to be called the Margravate of Azilia, were published in pamphlets and circulated in London. But the effort to interest settlers failed and the land reverted to the Proprietors.

Because of their inadequacy in coping with the many frontier problems, the English Lords Proprietors in 1729 sold their claims, and control returned to the crown. By 1730 the Board of Trade had decided that the best plan for strengthening the southern frontier was to extend colonization to the territory that is now Georgia.

The Founding of Georgia

Philanthropic, economic, and political considerations motivated the founding of Georgia. Best known, and perhaps underlying, was the humanitarian purpose. Under the first two Hanoverian monarchs, widespread extravagance, speculation, and unemployment in England had resulted in the imprisonment of many persons for debt. The overcrowded prisons were so poorly managed and their inmates so unjustly treated that the British Parliament appointed a committee to investigate conditions and suggest reforms. James Edward Oglethorpe, who had offered the resolution in Parliament, was appointed chairman of the committee. At once a philanthropist and a shrewd promoter, Oglethorpe conceived the idea of transporting a large number of debtors to America as settlers in the development of a new Crown colony. He enlisted the aid of John, Viscount Perceval, who was noted for his work among the poor. The project was so enthusiastically received that plans were broadened to make the proposed colony a refuge also for persecuted Protestants of Continental Europe. In

14. Walter A. Harris, "Macon A Military Post", Macon The Heart of Georgia, compiled by Joseph N. Neel, Jr., Post No. 3, American Legion, Lyon, Harris & Brooks, Macon, Ga., 1941, p. 25.

petitioning for a grant of land, the twenty noblemen reminded King George III that along the Savannah River mulberry trees grew and that a colony here might be a source of a fine quality of raw silk. Profitable Indian trade, an additional market for English goods, a relief from the burden of caring for the impoverished prisoners were additional practical inducements. Added to these considerations was the urgent need to strengthen the Carolina colony against the threatening Spanish. Thus Georgia was in 1732 a land of hope. To the colonists it meant a new start in life; to the English Crown it meant revenue; and to the citizens of South Carolina it meant security.

On June 9, 1732, the charter was signed by King George III, for whom the colony was named. The territory granted in the charter was taken from the Province of South Carolina, and included ". . . all those lands . . . which lie from the most northern part of a stream or river there, commonly called the Savannah, all along the sea coast to the southward unto the southern stream—of the Altamaha, and westerly from the heads of the said rivers respectively, in direct lines to the South Seas."[15] The twenty petitioners for the land formed a board of trustees, which was given legislative and executive powers for twenty-one years.

The colonists were carefully selected. After they had been drilled for about three months, between 114 and 125 (about thirty-five families) set out with Oglethorpe on November 17, 1732, in the small ship, "Anne". Two months and seven days later they landed at Charleston. Oglethorpe left the little company at Beaufort, South Carolina, to rest while he sought a place for the first settlement. With Colonel William Bull, of South Carolina, he traveled by canoe through inlets until he reached the Savannah River, proceeding down the river to Yamacraw Bluff. Here he found the desired site, which he named Savannah. The main body of colonists arrived February 12 (old style calendar). Nine days later half the town was cleared and the first house begun.

Not all the colonists were drawn from the impoverished classes. Persons of high estate were also eligible to emigrate provided they were not speculators. In the period between 1732 and 1740, 2,500 emigrants, about two-thirds of whom were foreign Protestants, were sent to Georgia by the trustees. Provisions were made for groups of Salzburgers and Moravians, German Protestants who sought escape from the ruling Catholic order. A company of Scottish Highlanders was recruited for military defense in 1735.

In no respect did Oglethorpe show greater wisdom than in his treatment of the Indians. Knowing that the great Creek Nation

15. Candler, The Colonial Records of Georgia, as quoted in J. E. Callaway, The Early Settlement of Georgia, The University of Georgia Press, Athens, Ga., 1848, p. 15.

was the true possessor of the Georgia territory, he sought first to gain their permission for the colony. Through the services of Mary Musgrove, a blood princess of the Creek Nation, who had with her husband recently opened a trading store on the Savannah, he cultivated the friendship of Tomochichi, aged chief of a band of exiled Creeks, called Yamacraws. Tomochichi summoned for General Oglethorpe a fairly general meeting of the chiefs. An agreement of peace and friendship was made and the Indians assented to the establishing of the colony. Later, runners were sent to the various Creek towns and a great convention of kings and chiefs was called. A treaty was then drawn up and signed, granting free and complete title to the Trustees of all lands between the Savannah and Altamaha Rivers with the exception of three islands which the Indians reserved for hunting, bathing, and fishing; and a tract of land reserved for their use when they visited Savannah. In this treaty, the Creeks said: ". . . though this land belongs to us, yet we . . . agree that they (the English) shall make use of and possess all those lands, which our nation hath not occasion to use; . . . provided always, that they, upon settling every new town, shall set out for the use of ourselves, and the people of our nation, such lands as shall be agreed upon between their beloved men, and the head men of our nation, and those lands shall remain to us forever.[16] These treaties, scrupulously observed by the English, resulted in the pacification of the Lower Creeks, the Uchees, and other allies under their control. Consequently, the extension of early Georgia settlements received no immediate check from hostile Indians. However, by 1739, England was at war with Spain and open warfare in Georgia started. The Georgia phase of this conflict culminated in a decisive English victory at the Battle of Bloody Marsh on St. Simon Island, July 7, 1742.

There is strong temptation to follow Georgia's story on through its early struggles and triumphs, through its part in the War of Independence and in the establishing of federal government; but these narratives have little direct bearing upon the history of Macon's beginnings. After the withdrawal of the Creeks to the Chattahoochee in 1717, until 1806 the Ocmulgee region had significance chiefly as a meeting place. Here the chiefs met the Indian agents to conclude trade agreements. Here in 1739 Oglethorpe crossed the Ocmulgee when he went from Savannah to the Indian town of Coweta on the Chattahoochee River to negotiate a treaty of friendship and, if possible, to forestall French and Spanish efforts to alienate the Indians.

Fort Hawkins

Indian Treaties

Both the origin of Fort Hawkins and a large part of its history are

16. Calloway, Op. Cit., p. 18.

to be found in the story of the Indian Treaties by which the lands of Georgia were ceded to the colonial, state, or federal government. The intrigues and conflicts culminating in these treaties extended over a century (1733-1835). In them is found the extinction of a nation; the emergence of a state. In them is the material of several histories. We shall be content to list those which have importance to the section that later became Macon:

1135815

1. 1733, May 21—Chiefs of the eight principal tribes of the Creek Nation ceded Oglethorpe and the colonists all land between the Savannah and Altamaha Rivers.
2. 1763, November 10—At Augusta. Peace treaty signed with all Indians in Georgia and a narrow strip of land to the north of the Savannah lying between the Ogeechee and the Savannah, and an almost square tract between the Ogeechee and the Atlantic ceded.
3. 1773—Creek and Cherokee Indians signed treaty at Augusta ceding to Britain 2,100,000 acres in Georgia.
4. 1783, May 31—Creeks and Cherokees ceded lands west of Tugalo River.
5. 1785—Galphinton Treaty of Augusta. Because of the aid given by the Creeks to England in the Revolutionary War, land from the fork of the Ocmulgee and Oconee to the south stream of the St. Mary's was demanded and ceded.
6. 1786—Shoulderbone Treaty. Ratified all existing treaties, and provided for punishment of offenders. In 1789, Alexander McGillivray, who had united the Creeks to fight with the English against the Georgians, and the famous Indian warrior, Weatherford, met the commissioners of President Washington (at Old Ocmulgee Fields, according to Butler), and rejected the Galphinton and Shoulderbone Treaties. This led to a conference between President Washington and the Indian leaders in New York, at which the Indians agreed to accept the Shoulderbone Treaty.
7. 1796, June 29—Treaty of Colerain. The Creeks confirmed and supplemented the agreements made at the New York conference.
8. 1802—
   (a) The Creeks ceded to the United States government all lands west of the Chattahoochee and on a line running north from the mouth of the Uchee Creek to the Nickajack Creek.
   (b) By the Treaty of Fort Wilkinson, the Creeks ceded tracts south of the Altamaha and west of the Oconee Rivers.
9. 1805, December—Creeks ceded lands along Ocmulgee. A convention had been held on November 3, 1804, at the Creek Agency

near the Flint River, at which Benjamin Hawkins had drawn up with the chiefs of the Creek Nation the terms of this treaty, which was signed at Washington in 1805. The Indians ceded their remaining lands east of the Ocmulgee river, reserving for their own use a tract along the river five miles long and three miles broad on a portion of the Old Ocmulgee Fields. The treaty granted the United States government the right to establish here a military post and factory (trading house). It was also provided that "... the navigation and fishing of the Ocmulgee, from its junction with the Oconee to the Ulcofauhatche, should be free to the white people; provided they use no traps for taking fish, but nets and seins may be used, which should be drawn on the eastern shore only."[17] A horse-path was to be kept open through the Creek country, and travelers were to be allowed to pass through in safety.

10. 1814—The Creeks were forced by General Andrew Jackson to cede further lands in southern Georgia.
11. 1818—The Creeks ceded 1,500,000 acres south of the Altamaha and about the headwaters of the Ocmulgee.
12. 1821—The Creeks ceded all their lands east of the Flint River.
13. 1825, February 12—By the Treaty of Indian Springs the Creeks ceded all their lands in Georgia to the United States. Representing the United States at this conference were Duncan G. Campbell and James Meriwether, and representing the Creeks were a number of warriors and twenty-six chiefs, headed by William McIntosh. The Creeks so resented this cession of all their lands that they branded McIntosh a traitor. A small band of them burned his home and murdered him. It was believed by the other commissioners that they were incited to this action by Colonel John Crowell, of North Carolina, who was at this time Creek Commissioner.
14. 1826, January—The Creek chiefs signed at Washington a new treaty, which ceded to the State of Georgia all lands but 300,000 acres of land east of the Chattahoochee River.
15. 1827, November 15—Creeks ceded all their remaining lands to the United States for $28,000.
16. 1835—By New Echota Treaty, Cherokees ceded to the state all their lands in Georgia.[18]

17. Butler, Op. Cit., p. 59.
18. Butler, Op. Cit., pp. 54-59.
Workers of the Writers Program, Georgia Guide, Op. Cit., pp. 521-525.
Victor Davidson, History of Wilkinson County, John Ball Chapter, D.A.R., J. W. Burke Co., 1930, pp. 40 ff.

Benjamin Hawkins

No man played a more important part in Macon's beginnings than Benjamin Hawkins. Not only was the fort named in his honor, but it was he who selected its site and who recommended its establishment. More important than these considerations is his work among the Indians and his influence in adjusting them to the encroachments of white settlers. It is therefore appropriate, before tracing the history of Fort Hawkins, to consider the career of its founder.

Benjamin Hawkins was born August 15, 1754, in what was then Granville, later Bute, and now Warren County, North Carolina. He was the son of Philemon and Delia (Martin) Hawkins. When he was in his senior year at Princeton, the Revolutionary War began, and, because of his knowledge of French, he was appointed interpreter to General Washington's staff. His state commissioned him in 1779 to serve as both foreign and local purchasing agent for supplies.

In July, 1781, he was elected a delegate to the Continental Congress. Here he was particularly interested in the navigation of the Mississippi and in the protection of the frontiers from Indians. In November, 1788, he was nominated delegate to the proposed convention to further revise the new Federal Constitution. In November, 1789, he represented Warren County in the Fayetteville Convention. Samuel Johnston, leading member of the Federalist party, was elected first Senator in Congress from North Carolina, and Hawkins was chosen second. He served until March 3, 1795, when a member of the more radical Republican party defeated him.

Hawkins had been appointed commissioner March 21, 1785, to treat with the Cherokees and "all other Indians southward of them" in accord with the act of Congress of March 15, 1785. The other commissioners were Andrew Pickens, Joseph Martin, and Lachlan McIntosh. They were to treat with Creeks, Chickasaws, and Choctaws. The Indians were uncooperative and the commissioners did not sign the Treaty of Galphinton. On November 28, 1785, Hawkins signed at Hopewell on the Koowee with the Cherokees the Treaty of Hopewell. On January 3, 1786, Hawkins, Pickens, and Martin signed treaties with the Choctaws, and on January 10 with the Chickasaws.

This preliminary experience paved the way for a long career as Indian agent. In June, 1795, Washington appointed him, along with George Clymer, of Pennsylvania, and Andrew Pickens, of South Carolina, to treat with the Creek Indians to investigate anomalous political relationship caused by the Treaty of Galphinton in 1785, by which the Creeks had acknowledged themselves as within the limits of Georgia and members of that state, and the Treaty of New York, signed August 7, 1790, by which they placed themselves under

the protection of the United States and bound themselves not to enter into any treaty with another individual, state, or power.

In 1796, Washington appointed Hawkins Agent of the United States among the Creeks and General Superintendent of all tribes south of the Ohio River. His commission was renewed in 1801 by Jefferson. From this time, to the consternation of his family, he withdrew from aristocratic society and lived in the wilderness frontiers of Georgia. For twenty years he worked as federal agent among the Creeks, and wielded great power over a large scope of land, which extended 400 miles east and west and 200 miles from north to south.

This land and the Indians who inhabited it he carefully studied. He brought slaves from his Roanoke plantation and set up a model farm at the Agency on the Flint River. He taught the Indians pasturage and agriculture. By his gentle understanding, his hospitality, and his patient teaching, he won their confidence and friendship, and helped them over the painful transition from savagery to semi-civilization. It was due to his diplomacy that many of the treaties were harmoniously concluded. In addition to the earlier ones, he negotiated the Fort Wilkinson and Washington Treaties, listed in the foregoing topic, as well as others with the Chickasaws and Choctaws.

With the advent of a second war with Britain in 1812, peaceful relations with the Indians were disrupted. The Creeks fell under the sway of Tecumseh, Shawnee chief, who convinced the southern Indians that alliance with England was their opportunity to reclaim their lands. Neither the eloquence of Tecumseh nor the promises of England, however, proselyted those Creeks who had come under the direct influence of Hawkins. The eastern tribes organized into a regiment of defense, which was financed by Hawkins, and, with him as the titular colonel and the half-breed chief, William McIntosh, in actual command, aided the Americans against hostile Indians and English. Thus, that part of the Creek country bordering on Georgia and extending west from the Ocmulgee to the Chattahochee was spared the bloody massacres that characterized Indian warfare. The subsequent defeat of the Creek Nation and the punishment of the loyal Creeks along with the guilty are believed to have broken Benjamin Hawkins. He died on June 6, 1816, at the Old Indian Agency on the Flint River and was buried there.[19]

Benjamin Hawkins—a man of liberal education, high attainments, and rich experience—was far above the average Indian Agent. His fostering and fatherly care of the Creeks, Cherokees, Chickasaws,

19. For this biographical sketch we have drawn heavily on:
a. Stephen B. Week, Foreword to Letters of Benjamin Hawkins (1796-1806), Collections of the Georgia Historical Society, Vol. IX, The Morning News, Savannah, Ga., 1916, pp. 5-12.
b. Dumas Malone, Dictionary of American Biography, American Council of Learned Societies, Vol. VIII, Charles Scribners Sons, N. Y., 1932.

and Choctaws are reflected in the name they gave him: "Beloved Man of the Four Nations". Never did he seek to exploit, but always to help them. His work among them bears fruit today in the eminent position held by the descendants of these tribes among the civilized tribes of the Indian Reservation.

Butler states that, although Hawkins frequently visited the fort that bore his name, and conducted much of his business there, he was never stationed there. Later writers state that his headquarters were originally at Fort Hawkins and were later moved to the Old Agency on the Flint.

Many of his journals and valuable papers were burned in the fire which destroyed his home on the Flint, but some of the journals had been submitted to the state governor at Milledgeville, and were thus preserved. These were later secured by the Georgia Historical Society and have been published by them. The record of the sale of his estate is now on file in Jones County at Gray, Georgia.[20]

The Fort

In 1802 Benjamin Hawkins recommended to the War Department that a fort and trading post be established on the Old Ocmulgee Fields. The right was obtained by the treaty between the Creek Nation and the United States which was signed in Washington, D. C., in 1805,[21] and instructions were issued to the commissioners to erect the necessary fortifications and buildings. Colonel Hawkins selected the site on the hill near the river where the Fort Hawkins school now stands, and 100 acres of land were reserved for the uses of the fort. It was built in 1806 and garrisoned by the removal of the troops at Fort Wilkinson in 1807.

Our knowledge of the appearance of the fort comes from a painting made by Mr. E. D. Irvine. The property upon which the fort had stood was owned in 1882 by Mr. Henry Jones, who announced his intention of tearing down the blockhouse, which was all that then remained of the fort. Mr. Irvine tried to persuade the city to purchase the building and remove it to Central City Park. Failing to arouse any interest in the project, he made a painting, which seems to have been fairly accurate.

"The fortifications consisted of two large block houses, surrounded by a strong stockade. The stockade was built of posts of hewn timber, fourteen feet long, and fourteen inches thick; they were sunk in the ground four feet, with port holes for a musket in every alternate post. The area within the stockade was fourteen acres.

". . . The blockhouses (one in the southeastern corner and the other

20. Mrs. J. E. Wright, Nathaniel Macon Chapter, D.A.R., Macon, Georgia.
21. See number 8 in list of Indian Treaties.

diagonally across from it) were similarly constructed—about twenty-eight feet square, two stories and a basement; thirty-four feet high, surmounted by watchtowers. The basement was built of blocks of stone eighteen inches thick, ten feet high; the first story was of hewn logs, twelve inches thick, with port holes for cannon and musketry, and twelve feet high. Over the first story the second projected, on all sides three feet, with holes in the floors of the part projecting, so that if the Indians reached the house and attempted to scale the stone basement, in order to set fire to the wooden work, they could be shot down from the projecting floors. The second story was also twelve feet high, and the towers about eight feet. There were four long houses, one in the center of each side of the stockade, their fronts forming part of the stockade to the width of each house, about twenty feet. These houses were used for soldiers' quarters, provisions, and for the factory goods to be sold to the Indians, and peltries received in return. In the center, surrounded by oaks, were the officers' quarters. The ninety-six acres surrounding the stockade were pretty much cleared of undergrowth and large trees, except a few trees near the fort, which were left for shade for the soldiers when they were on duty. The object of clearing the grounds was, in case of attack the Indians would not find a protection within gunshot, behind the trees."[22]

Although Fort Hawkins was impregnable to the weapons that the Indians possessed—bows and arrows, battle axes, tomahawks, and muskets—there is no evidence that any fighting occurred there. It was important as a trade center, as a meeting place for transacting business between the Agent or his representative and the Indians, and as a recruitment center in the early nineteenth century wars.

From the report sent in 1812 by William Eustis, Secretary of War, to Henry Clay, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Butler obtains an account of the Indian trade at the fort. The amount of business here for the four years to September 30, 1811, was $22,317.28. The Secretary explains: "It will be found that, generally, the Southern factories have lost, while the Northern factories have gained. The reason for this is obvious. At the first, peltries (deer skins) are in most part received from the Indians. The quantity of the article supplied in the country, greatly exceeds the home consumption. The market is on the continent of Europe. Since the obstruction to our commerce in that quarter peltries have not only received a depression in price, in common with other of our produce consumed in that part of Europe, but are subject to a considerable loss by being kept over, because of the difficulty and expense of preserving from damage

22. Butler, Op. Cit., pp. 60-62.

by vermin. . . Another consideration is, that at some of the Northern factories, the Indians of their respective vicinities have been encouraged to employ a portion of labor on objects that are not attainable near the Southern factories, such as preparing buffalo tallow and candles; in making maple sugar; in digging the ore and melting down lead. Fort Hawkins is also spoken of as being remote from the white settlements."[23] Jonathan Holstead was agent at the factory at the time of this report. Trade was carried on in furs and agricultural products as well as in the money of the annuities. Among the items which were for sale or trade found listed in the Fort Hawkins day book are: cloth, thread, combs, hats, saddles, padlocks, bells, spoons, knives, fish hooks, axes, and hoes.

Although there were no skirmishes or battles in this vicinity during the War of 1812, Fort Hawkins did play an important part in the conflict. It was strategically located to serve as a supply base and as quarters for armies sent either to the west or to the south. When hostilities began, Captain Phil Cook, afterwards Major, was in command.

In the summer of 1812, Major General Floyd's army of 950 men and 400 friendly Indians assembled at Camp Hope, located on the Milledgeville Road at what is now the northeastern tip of Bibb County. The army crossed the river and fought the Indian allies of Britain, driving them beyond Singer's Hill, northwest of Macon.

In the Fall of 1812, the Indian war began in West Georgia and Alabama. A terible massacre occurred at Fort Mims, Alabama, in which nearly 300 white people were killed. "Shortly afterwards General Jackson, at the head of Tennessee militia, marched against the Indians, and with General Coffee, fought two successful battles. General Floyd, with nine hundred and fifty Georgians, including a regiment which had been stationed at Fort Hawkins, and four hundred friendly Indians, encountered the hostiles at Autosse, which place was regarded by them as the holy ground. They fought nobly in its defense, but were overcome. Their loss, in killed, was two hundred of their bravest warriors. . . Several other battles occurred in which the Indians were defeated. Their last stand was made at the great bend of Tallapoosa, called by the whites, 'the Great Horse Shoe Bend'. Here were more than one thousand warriors, who, with their women and children, had assembled in a strongly fortified fort. The Indians were surrounded, and refusing to surrender, fought with desperation until nearly all were slain."[24] Major Christopher B. Strong, afterwards an eminent lawyer and one of the early settlers of Macon and Vineville, was one of the outstanding officers in General Floyd's army.

23. Ibid.
24. Ibid, p. 65.

During the latter part of 1814, there was much activity at Fort Hawkins, for the English were expected to make an attack on the South at several different points. General Jackson was appointed to succeed General Wilkinson in command of the forces at New Orleans, and on August 4, established headquarters at Mobile. Here he learned that the British ships had entered the harbor of Pensacola and had landed a small army with guns and ammunition to supply the Indians. At the same time, Colonel Hawkins had been informed by Governor Early, of Georgia, that a number of British vessels had arrived at Apalachicola and that the British were training Indians and runaway Negroes in military tactics, preparing to overrun Georgia. The English were also expected to strike at the Georgia coast, and General Floyd was stationed with an army at Savannah. The state frontier was defended by General David Blackshear, who had been engaged in building a line of forts on the Ocmulgee and Flint Rivers and in subduing the Indians in that portion of the state.

In October, the Secretary of War ordered the Governor of Georgia to organize, arm, and equip 2500 militia to join General Jackson at Mobile. Governor Early ordered General Blackshear to assemble at Fort Hawkins by November 21st the regiment detached from Major-General Daniel's division, which was commanded by Colonel David S. Booth, and the regiment commanded by Colonel Ezekiel Wimberly, including two companies from Brigadier General Lee's brigade in Jones County and a company of artillery commanded by Captain James Saffold, of Clinton. At Fort Hawkins they were furnished arms and provisions by the United States contractor, Farish Carter. Major Phil Cook inspected and mustered in the detachment, and Major General McIntosh and Brigadier General David Blackshear were appointed commanders. They were encamped at Camp Hope.

On November 23rd General McIntosh, whose headquarters were at that time Fort Hawkins, ordered General Blackshear to organize the detachment into two regiments and a battalion. When news was received that the Seminoles were rising west of the Flint River, General Blackshear was ordered to march with Wimberly's regiment of infantry to Hartford, on the Ocmulgee, and to proceed from there to the Flint River, where he would suppress the Seminoles and then join McIntosh in re-enforcing Jackson. With the remainder of his command, General McIntosh at the same time left Fort Hawkins for Mobile to relieve General Jackson. When General Blackshear reached the junction of the Flint and Chattahoochee, he discovered that Major Blue had captured an army of "Red Stripes", Colonel Hawkins had 1,000 friendly warriors at Fort Mitchell, and the Seminoles had been subdued. Although Blackshear's plan had been to join McIn-

tosh at Mobile, Governor Early wrote him on January 19, 1815, that two British ships-of-the-line, seven frigates, and a number of smaller vessels had landed on the Georgia coast at its most vulnerable point. He was therefore ordered to return to Hartford and to join General Floyd, where additional supplies would be sent him from Fort Hawkins. He reached Hartford on January 21st and marched on to Savannah.

Fort Hawkins was, during this period, the principal depository of supplies for the army of Indians under Colonel Hawkins at Fort Mitchell, for General Blackshear's army near the Altamaha, and for General Floyd's army below that point.

News of General Jackson's victory over the British reached Fort Hawkins by a line of runners from Mobile on January 26th. Nineteen guns were fired at the fort in celebration of the victory.

The most distinguished army man to visit Fort Hawkins was General Andrew Jackson. In 1817, the Seminoles and a few Creeks, led by Ambrister and Arbuthnot, who claimed to hold Florida in the name of Spain, began depradations on the Alabama and Georgia frontiers. General Gaines was sent to suppress this uprising, but, since his force was insufficient, General Jackson was given the assignment. On February 10, 1817, Jackson, with 1,000 of his Tennesseans, reached Fort Hawkins and received into his army the Georgia re-enforcements of 900 militia and a number of friendly Creeks. Here he planned the campaign by which he defeated the Seminoles. The spot in North Highlands where he is believed to have camped is still known as Jackson Springs.

In addition to Captain (later Major) Phil Cook, Major General John McIntosh, Major John Floyd, Brigadier General David Blackshear, and Major Christopher Strong—who have been mentioned in the military activities of the fort—Colonel David Booth, Colonel Ezekiel Wimberly, and Captain James Suffold also served as commandants.

Although Fort Hawkins was in its early years chiefly a place of trade and a source of army supplies, it was later important as a meeting place for the Indian Agents and the Indians. Seldom was a treaty signed with the Creeks that did not call for annuities for the Nation as a whole and for special ones to certain chiefs. These annuities were usually paid at Fort Hawkins. The largest gathering here for this purpose was held in July, 1817, when over 1,400 Indians assembled. Ex-Governor David B. Mitchell had been appointed to succeed Colonel Hawkins as Indian Agent. The Indians met him at the Fort and remained there for several days. The chiefs dined each day with General Mitchell. During a frolic one of the Indians, next in rank to

McIntosh, became intoxicated and killed his own nephew. In accordance with the Indian custom, he was instantly arrested and, within an hour of his crime, executed.

After the Treaty of 1821,[25] by which the Creeks ceded their land east of the Chattahoochee to the United States government, most of the Indians moved west, and Fort Hawkins had no further national importance. However, several events of a local character have direct interest to citizens of Macon.

On October 8, 1813, at Fort Hawkins Martha Pearson Cook, the first white child born in what is now Macon, was born to Major and Mrs. Phil Cook. She married Mr. Isaac Winship, and their descendants[26] have given outstanding service both to the city and the nation.

In 1818, Roger McCall and Harrison Smith settled on Swift Creek in the neighborhood of Fort Hawkins. In 1819 McCall sent for his brother, Eleazar, to work with him in the construction of boats for navigation of the Ocmulgee River. Eleazar brought with him a party including David Flanders, Joseph Willet, John Minor, Seymour Murray, George Clark, James Minor, and a Mr. Beckwith. At the lower part of the Ocmulgee Fields they built a flat boat and loaded it with 300 bales of cotton from Jones County. It was the first merchant boat floated down the Ocmulgee.

The first house erected in the area outside the fort was a wooden structure built in 1823 by Mr. Lyman, from Milledgeville, and used as a store where trade was carried on with the Indians. After this, other white settlers began to move here and to lease lands around the fort and on the river. This little settlement was called Fort Hawkins until the abandonment of the fort in 1821; when it was named Newtown. The first hotel in the section later incorporated into Macon was built a few hundred yards from the fort, a log structure erected in 1820 and kept by Charles Bullock and Nicholas Wells.

In 1828, the Fort Hawkins property, embracing the original 100 acres, was sold with the last of the reserved lands to Thomas Woolfolk.

25. See Number 12 on list of Indian Treaties.

26. Emory Winship, son, whose children were: Sarah Reid, Isaac, Lizzie, Alexander, Emory, Blanton, William Herring, and Mary Lizzie; Laura Ellen Winship, daughter, who married Nat Cook Robertson and died without issue; Anna Eliza Winship, daughter, who married Josiah A. Flournoy, and whose children were: Robert, Martha Cook, Josiah A., Gertrude Claxton, and Annie Laura; Martha Angelina Winship, daughter, who married Hinton Lovejoy, and whose children were: Emory, Laura, Ida, John H., Jr., Isaac Winship, Irene Anderson, Burton Miles, Elizabeth Winship, and Edward Taliaferro; Mary Cook Winship, daughter, who married the Rev. J. G. Pearce and whose children were: Anna Lawrence, John Winship, Eva Leila, Russell Ellison, Irene Comer, Viola Bard, Flora Bell, and Rosa Lee; Ida Louise Winship, daughter, who married Thomas Woodward Mangham, C.S.A., and whose children were: Fannie Graham, Thomas W., Jr., Lizzie, and Ida Louise; Sarah Irene Winship, daughter, who married Lewis F. Anderson, and whose children were: Rosa, Ida, and Irene; Emily Lavinia Winship, daughter, who married Joseph Warren Cabaniss, and whose children were: Isaac Winship, Lila Peeples, Joseph W., Jr., Emmie Chipman, Eldridge Guerry, and Emory Winship; Victoria Comer Winship, daughter, who married George W. Head, and whose children were: Nellie Victoria and George Winship; Nathan Robertson Winship, son, whose children were Irene and North.



Fort Hawkins Blockhouse As Reconstructed by Nathaniel Macon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution

Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones.

By an act of the Georgia Legislature in 1829, the whole reserve was surveyed, laid off into lots, and Newtown was incorporated into the town of Macon. The two blockhouses stood for some time after this, and the one that occupied the northwest corner was blown down about 1870. The other one was removed by Mr. Henry Jones and rebuilt on

the rear of his lot on Main Street in East Macon. He used it for a barn until it was destroyed by fire.

Through the efforts of the Nathaniel Macon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the site where one (the one in the southeastern corner) of the original blockhouses stood was secured. With the cooperation of the Works Progress Administration, the blockhouse was reconstructed in 1937 and 1938. The plans for the reconstruction were drawn from Butler's description, and these were sent to Washington, D. C., to be checked with the original plans. Thus, the replica, which now stands a reminder of the city's beginnings, is an accurate duplication of the original blockhouse.

Chapter III

THE FIRST TWO DECADES

I Formal Origin

A—Incorporating Acts and Laying Out of the Town

Favorable reports of the climate, soil fertility, and transportation advantages of the region around Fort Hawkins began to spread rapidly with the advent of the first white settlers to the Fort. By the treaty of 1821 made at Indian Springs on January 8th and ratified on March 2nd, the lands between the Flint and the Ocmulgee and the reserve on which Fort Hawkins was built together with the rest of the old Ocmulgee Fields became United States property. Then the United States was authorized to lease the land to settlers, and the most desirable lots—those along the river—were quickly appropriated with long term leases. Later settlers protested this grabbing up of choice lots, so by an act of the State Legislature dated May 12, 1821, a duplicate reserve to that of Fort Hawkins was set up on the opposite or western side of the river. Coincident with this act, Governor Clarke sent to the House of Representatives a letter from John C. Calhoun, Secretary of War, listing the leases on the Fort Hawkins reserve which now reverted to the state.

By an act of the General Assembly of December 9, 1822, Bibb County was laid out along with three other new counties from land formerly included in the counties of Houston, Twiggs, Monroe, Jones, Henry, Fayette, and Gwinnett. Bibb contained a part of Jones and a part of Monroe and received its name in honor of Dr. William Wyatt Bibb, a native Virginian. Dr. Bibb had lived in both Elbert and Wilkes Counties and had served in both the House of Representatives and the United States Senate. Later he was appointed Governor of the Territory of Alabama and was elected first Governor of that state in 1819. One year later he suffered a fatal accident while horseback riding near his home in Alabama. There had been some sentiment in the General Assembly toward the name of Mercer for this county as an honor to Jesse Mercer, a celebrated Baptist minister whose name was later given to Mercer University as a sequel to Penfield upon the removal of that institution from Greene County to Macon.

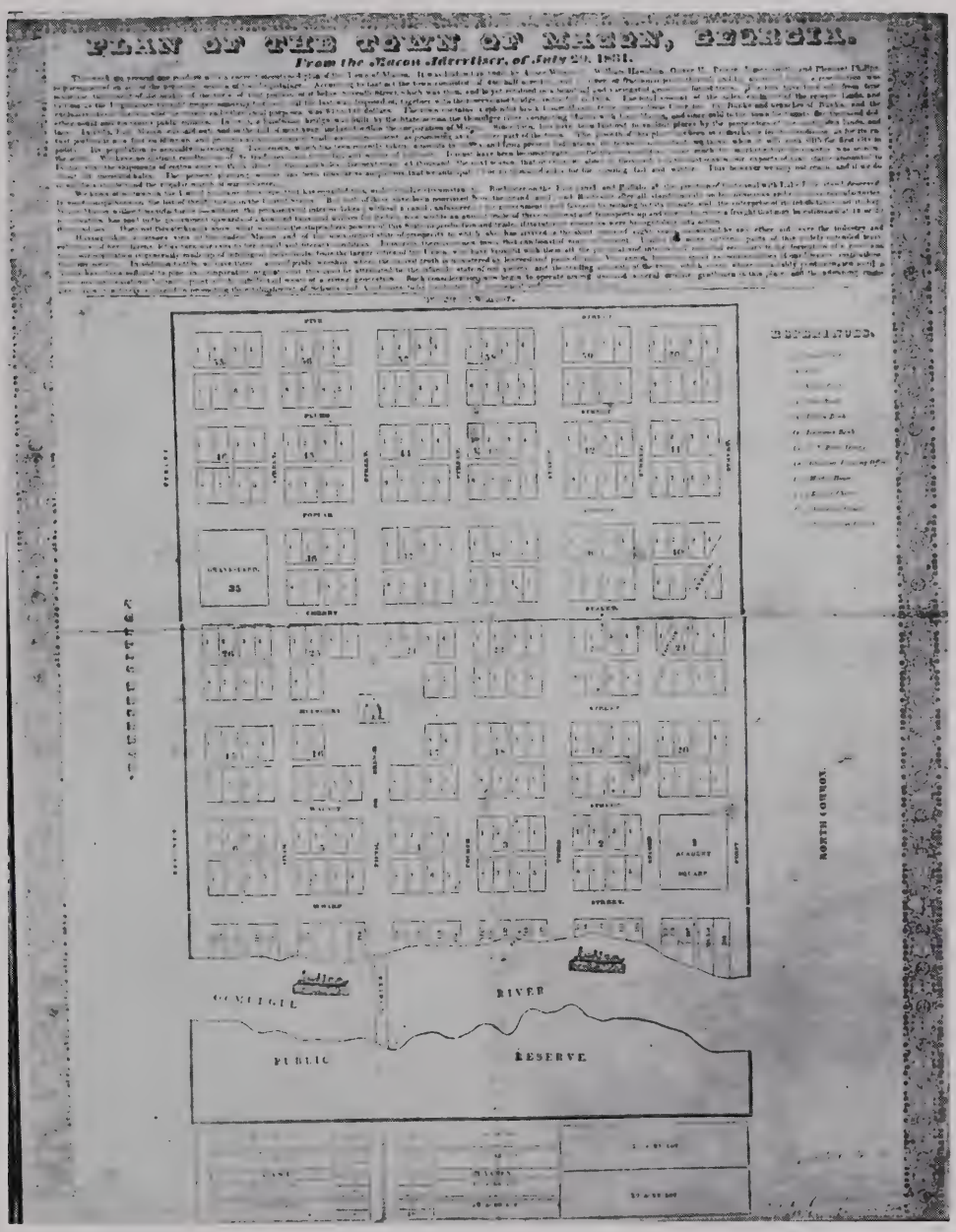
With provision made for the new county and its name, by a subsequent act of the Legislature on December 23, 1822, the new county was to be organized, the place of holding court was to be defined, and commissioners were authorized to lay off a town to be called Macon. This act also provided that the commissioners should set up and offer for sale not more than twenty half acre lots, first giving public notice in one of the newspapers of each of the towns of Savannah, Augusta, and Milledgeville. Terms of the lot sales were to be one-fourth cash with the balance to be paid in three annual installments. The commissioners chosen on the late afternoon of the same day were Abner Wimberly, James Smith, Oliver H. Prince, William Hamilton, and Pleasant Phillips. According to provision of the act they were to receive $4.00 a day while in service and to give bond in the sum of $20,000. Proceeds from the sale of these lots were to go to the State.

In the early part of 1823 James Webb, the appointed surveyor, laid out a formal plan for the town. According to the unpublished memoirs of Mrs. Hermione Ross Walker[1], he was assisted by "Simri Rose, Timothy Mathews, Robert Coleman, John Jones, the McCalls, boat builders from New England, and others". Mrs. Ross was a descendant of Luke Ross and Henry Ross, both pioneer citizens of Macon.

The name for the newly created town honored Nathaniel Macon, a North Carolina statesman who was at the time a prominently mentioned possible candidate for vice-president in the approaching national election. Whether the fact that the earliest settlers around the Fort were largely North Carolinian exerted any influence in the choice of the name is an interesting supposition. However, Macon was a prominent political figure, serving in Congress for thirty-seven straight years—from 1791 through 1815 in the House and 1816 through 1828 in the Senate, holding top positions in both houses of Congress. It is interesting to note that he was an advocate of states rights, having opposed the ratification of the United States Constitution on the charge that it would hamper the rights of the state. His retirement from Congress did not terminate his political service as he later helped to revise the constitution of his own state and was a presidential elector in the election of 1836. On June 29, 1837, his life, which had begun in Warren County, North Carolina in 1757, was brought to a close.

According to tradition, the plan of ancient Babylon was followed in the laying out of the streets in Macon, the whole area following the plan of a rectangle. The streets were quite wide and ran roughly north and south, and east and west. It is generally conceded that Simri Rose was the person who insisted upon the wide streets and the provision for parks. The east and west streets, somewhat paralleling the river, were named for trees, except the first one, which was originally

1. The Unconquered City—Mrs. H. R. Walker.



Early Map of Macon
Courtesy D.A.R. Room of Washington Memorial Library.

called Wharf Street, later changing to Ocmulgee. The others in order, were Walnut, Mulberry, Cherry, Poplar, Plum, and Pine. The north and south streets were numbered, beginning with First and ending with Eleventh. Each set of streets alternated in widths of 180 feet and 120 feet. The squares formed between street intersections measured

437 by 427 feet and were divided by alleys in both directions, running parallel to the streets, into lots of one acre each and measuring 208½ feet on each side. The alleys which ran east and west were twenty feet wide; those running north and south were ten feet wide.

On the north and west sides of the town, the Commons extended to a width of 1,360 feet. They were not divided by streets.

Ample provision for public buildings was made in the survey. The square bounded by Second, First, Wharf, and Mulberry streets was set apart for an academy. Another square, bounded by Second, Third, Walnut and Mulberry, was reserved for a court house. The area enclosed between Sixth, Seventh, Cherry, and Poplar streets was set apart for the building of churches with graveyards attached, and although a later act of the Legislature in 1826 appropriated other lots for church buildings, these four acres served as a public cemetery until 1840 when additional provision for burial grounds was made.

Finally, where Fifth and Mulberry streets crossed, one fourth of each of the adjacent blocks—that acre lot nearest the intersection—was to be left vacant to provide a public square of four acres, plus the additional width of the crossed streets.

One of the first ordinances passed in Macon required owners of lots to plant shade trees in front of their lots. In an early issue of *The Macon Telegraph*[2] the editor urged property owners to comply with the ordinance, suggesting the use of tulip trees, dogwood, sassafras, mulberry, sycamore, and cedar instead of chinaberry trees, which he classed as too trashy. An ordinance of early 1824 forbade the cutting of green timber inside the town except for building.

The last in the series of acts that led to the beginning of Macon occurred on December 10, 1823, when both houses of the General Assembly of the State passed an act of incorporation introduced in November by Dr. Stephen M. Ingersoll, a member of the House of Representatives. This act named Oliver H. Prince, David S. Booth, Samuel Wood, Charles J. McDonald, and Seth Ward to serve as the first commissioners of the new town.

Stipulation was also made that these Commissioners were to serve until the first Monday in 1825, at which time (and at the same time in subsequent years) elections would be held for five Commissioners to continue to carry on the work of the government of the town. In future elections, the Commissioners elected from their own group a head called an Intendant and a Secretary. The act of incorporation included the settlement on the east bank of the river formerly called Newtown.

A description of these settlements as it appeared in the *Messenger*, another local newspaper, reads:[3]

2. Issue, January 28, 1828.
3. Issue, December 10, 1823.

"The scite of Fort Hawkins is about half a mile from the Okmulgee, on a hill, and the buildings formerly attached to it are occupied by several families. Near them is the tavern of Messrs. Bullock and Wells, at which the Post Office is kept. On a level, at the foot of the hill, and about two hundred yards from the old ferry is the village of Newtown, but generally known as a part of Fort Hawkins. On the western bank is the town laid out in February last, extending one mile on the river and three-fourths of a mile back. Here a post office has also been established. The two latter places now constitute the incorporated town of Macon."

B—Sale of Lots

In accordance with the legislative act authorizing the founding of a city, public announcements of the first sale of lots were made well in advance of the first sale which occurred on March 7th and 8th, 1823. According to the issue of the *Messenger* dated February 23, 1825, those first lots brought about $12,000. Bidding for them was spirited, and lots along the river brought the best price.

The Grand Jury, appointed by the September term of court in 1823, recommended that the Legislature be petitioned either to set aside rental fees from reserve lands and public property in the county or to allow the town to withhold proceeds from sales of some of the lots in Macon sufficient to enable the building of a permanent court house and jail. Accordingly in December, the Legislature passed an act of appropriation to Bibb County, introduced by Dr. Ingersoll. It consisted of the rent of the public property on the Reserve for one year, together with the proceeds from the sale of forty town lots in Macon, the sale to be held on March 9, 1824. When these lots were offered for sale on March 9th, 10th, and 11th, they were all sold, and forty of them brought a total of $8,779. They were not, however, choice river front lots.

In February, 1825, a third group of lots—twenty in number—were sold, bringing in a total of $14,218. The Legislature in December, 1826, authorized another sale of lots within the corporate limits of the town and including a few choice river front lots that had been reserved during former sales. At the same time the town Commons were extended half a mile on the northwest and southwest boundaries as they were set out in the original survey. The same General Assembly, acting upon a recommendation from Dr. Ambrose Baber, a well-known physician and public spirited individual who had migrated to Georgia from Virginia, and had settled in Macon, set aside the land laid off in the original survey below Seventh street with an additional area extended about 600 yards below and 300 yards westward, to be a public park under the control of the city. The only proviso was that if any part

of the land should be sold or leased, the whole area should revert to the state. Dr. Baber had urged the preservation of the forest already existent in this region as a health measure necessitated by the swampy condition of the land caused by frequent overflowings of the river. A part of that land has been in use for many years as the Central City Park.

The sale of lots authorized by the General Assembly of 1826 occurred in February, 1827. Figures on this sale are given by the *Macon News* as follows:[4] "On the first day, ten acre lots on the river brought nine thousand eight hundred eighty dollars. The lot nearest the bridge brought three thousand five hundred and fifty dollars. Nine others sold for seven thousand one hundred and fifty-five dollars, and seven quarter acre lots in the court house square between Walnut and Mulberry and Second and Third streets, were sold for four thousand five hundred and ninety dollars."

On March 3, 1828, the *Telegraph* announced an early sale of seven quarter-acre and eighteen half-acre lots, which brought $11,360, and for the first time since the authorization of funds by the Legislature, announcement was made that this money would be appropriated for the badly needed court house.

The final sale of lots in the city proper began on October 1, 1828, and continued throughout that month. This sale took in all those lots in and around Newtown on the east side of the river, all remaining lots on the west side, and the reserve land around the old Fort. At the conclusion of this sale no business lots were left unsold on the west side of the river. The hundred acres of poor land surrounding Fort Hill, the old site of Fort Hawkins, were bought for $2,151 by Thomas Woolfolk of Jones County. The bill of sale for this land is today in the possession of the Harry Stewart family of Macon, one of Woolfolk's descendants. The *Telegraph* of November 1, 1828, reported upon completion of these sales that they had brought in a total of "$73,719 which added to earlier sales of $78,550 comprises $152,269." (This later figure was probably a total of all lots sold since March, 1823.) Even the Ancient Mounds, today a part of the Ocmulgee National Monument, were included in these sales.

Only two further sales of lots are noted in the newspapers of the period in connection with the growth of Macon. In March, 1834, sixty-three half acre lots on the northwest commons brought a total of $27,542. The terms of the sale, in spite of what were considered to be hard times, were one-fifth within twenty-four hours after the sale and the balance in four yearly installments. This money was earmarked for payments for the building of the new bridge across the Ocmulgee. Later, on December 27, 1836, another sale of lots outside the city proper brought in $36,095. This sale included eight one-acre lots on

4. Macon History Edition, July 10, 1929.

College Street and six two-acre lots of Beall's Hill (the area around what is today Mount de Sales School).

C—Early Buildings in the City

When the survey for the city was completed in 1823, there was not one frame building within the newly defined limits. The closest dwelling was a log cabin on the bank of the river at the ferry above First Street, which was occupied by E. C. Beard who had been since 1821 in charge of the ferry here. According to Butler[5] there was also "a log cabin containing several small rooms, which was weatherboarded and used that year (1822) and in the early part of 1823 as an inn". This belonged to Thomas Tatum and stood at the corner of First and Wharf streets.

The first tree felled for the construction of a frame house was cut by Joseph Willet, one of the six men who first came as settlers on this portion of the Ocmulgee. According to tradition this tree was used in the building of the first frame house in Macon on the corner of Wharf (now Ocmulgee) and Fifth Street. In the unpublished memoirs of Mrs. Hermione Ross Walker it is said that the two story house was built on order of Henry Ross for his bride. Butler says, "It was built by Messrs. Henry G. Ross and Dr. S. M. Ingersoll; the first story was occupied for a store, and the upper story for a dwelling." Each of these authorities speaks of the white painting that attracted widespread attention as "the most ornamental building in several counties".

This western end of Fifth Street was the first section opened and built upon, and for many years it, together with the river end of Sixth Street was the most desirable residential section of the town. Rapidly, however, in the next two years the cross street squares on Wharf, Walnut, Mulberry, and Cherry between Fourth and Fifth were built upon.

It was reported in the *Messenger* of May 12, 1823, that 116 mechanics were employed in building the town of Macon and that since the first sale of lots in 1823, seventeen frame buildings had been completed. By late 1824 the town had "twenty respectable stores (none of which were grog shops), sixteen on the west side of the river and four on the east; four large taverns, a warehouse for cotton on both sides, upwards of sixty families, and seven good boats to ply from Macon to Darien."[6] Most kinds of mercantile business were being carried on.

In 1824 the first school in Macon, an academy under the direction of Rev. Oliver Danforth, the first school teacher in Macon, was put into operation. This school, founded under the auspices of the Commissioners of the Bibb County Academy who had been appointed by the Legislature in 1823, was called Macon Academy. A board of trustees set up for the Academy included Charles J. McDonald, James S.

5. Historical Record of Macon and Central Georgia—by J. C. Butler.
6. Messenger—December 8, 1824.

Frierson, Matthew Robinson, Rice Durrett, and Oliver H. Prince. The first meeting of this group was held on November 9, 1825, at which time "arrangements were made for the building of an Academy on Academy Square, to be thirty-six feet long by twenty-four feet wide, and to contain one desk, four writing tables, and nine benches". This was the permanent home of the Academy, and when it opened in 1826, Rev. Lot Jones was named Rector. The building itself must have been somewhat crude as later minutes of the group provided that the building be raised two feet higher and set on pillars made from bricks forming the chimney, and that window panes be placed in it. When this building was destroyed by fire in 1829, it was replaced by a more substantial two story brick building with porticos and a cupola in 1834. This building stood for better than forty years when it was crushed during a storm by the falling of a large chinaberry tree that stood beside it and burned.

During 1824 another hotel, a large wooden building called Macon Hotel, was constructed on the west side of Mulberry Street below Fourth Street or Broadway. (This was later the site of the Bibb County Jail and today is near the site of a super market.) Built by Joel Ruskin, the hotel was leased by George Stovall who was operating it upon the visit of LaFayette in 1825. Shortly after this memorable visit the name "Macon Hotel" was changed to "LaFayette Hotel".

At the same time, behind the Macon Hotel and facing Mulberry street, a two story building, twenty by forty feet, was erected. The lower floor was used as a store, and the upper floor was the meeting place of a newly organized Masonic Lodge. Here, too, before a suitable court house was built, meetings of the town corporation were held. In the minutes of the Lodge for January 19, 1826, mention was made that the privilege of meeting in this hall was contingent upon payment of $30 for use during the year.

In September, 1824, "The Mansion House", a new hotel, was completed on the southeast corner of Mulberry and Fourth streets. Built by S. F. Slater of Clinton, Georgia, it was first operated by William Bivins and later by Bullock and Wells who had established the first hotel in Newtown before the building of Macon.

1825 was a year that witnessed the completion of several important buildings. A market house was built in the center of the intersection of Fourth Street and Mulberry. More important, however, was the completion of a wooden court house, thirty-five by forty-five feet, on the southeast corner of the block now occupied by the Lanier Hotel. This building served many purposes, being used as a gathering place for all sorts of occasions, for religious services of various denominations, and for carrying on county business.

Education during 1825 received an added stimulus through the beginning of three new academies within the county. George C. Smith says, "In the first settlement of the county there was an academy in the Holt and Myrick settlements nearly four miles from Macon known as the Lake Academy; one in the northern part of the county in the Lamar settlement known as the Washington Academy; and one near Liberty Chapel in the pine woods."[7] Bass Chapel on Forsyth Road now occupies the site of old Lake Academy, and the one near Liberty Chapel has fallen into disrepair.

With all this evidence of interest in education, the indignation aroused by the following statement which appeared in an Alexandria, D. C., newspaper in 1831 is entirely understandable: "In Macon, a town containing a population of 2600 persons, there is not a single Teacher."

As a result of the statement, the town authorities were deluged with applicants offering to come to Macon as teachers, and some of them were quite insistent. One newspaper by way of comment stated that the population was nearer 3,000 and that the town was "plentifully supplied with Doctors, Lawyers, and Teachers". It was announced that there were five schools in the town, three of them classical, besides "a female academy in the vicinity."[8]

D—Origin of Municipal Government

The same act of the Legislature which authorized the laying out of Bibb County in December, 1822, added this new county to the Flint Judicial District as it was then called, that term being synonymous with Flint Circuit. Because no court house had been built, the first Inferior Court in Macon was held in the residence of John Keener on February 15, 1823. This house was a double log cabin on a hill called Beall's Hill, and adjacent to the site of Mount de Sales Academy today. It was later built upon by Simri Rose. The presiding Justices were John Davis, Tarpley Holt, C. W. Raines, D. Lawson, and L. K. Carle. According to Orville A. Park, "At that time the Inferior Court in addition to its common law and probate jurisdiction had charge of county affairs, and the first work of the court was the division of the county into districts and the appointment of commissioners to superintend the construction and working of the roads."[9] James Flewellen was elected clerk of this court.

Keener's residence was also the scene of the first term of the Superior Court on March 20, 1823. Judge Eli S. Shorter, a resident of Putnam County and an outstanding lawyer of the day, presided; and Charles J. McDonald was Solicitor General. Each of the officials was serving

7. The Story of Georgia and the Georgia People—by George C. Smith.
8. The Macon Advertiser—Issue Sept. 13, 1831.
9. Macon News Supplement, Appendix: Bench and Bar of Macon, 1823-1923 by Orville A. Park.

his first term of office, and this court was among the first that they held. Since Macon had not been started, the business for the grand jury came from Newtown across the river. The first indictment was for stabbing. There were, in addition, presentments for gaming and several charges of keeping disorderly houses, one of which was against Solomon, a free Negro who was a familiar figure of the time. The Grand Jurors of this first court were:

Alexander Meriwether
Josacher Bates
Charles McArdle
James Fitzgerald
Henry Williams
John H. Beard
Charles Ingram
Thomas House
Hardy Harrold
Lewis Foy
Roland Bivins
Redding Rutland
Jonathan A. Hudson
Thomas Bates
William Cummings
Nathan Braddy
Jonathan Wilder
Henry Audolph
James Henderson
John Douglass
Claiborne Bateman
Burrell Bullock
George B. Wardlow

Petit Jurors empanelled at the same session included:

Jesse Palmer
Richard Bullock
John Bullock
James B. Hamilton
John Gafford
Britton Brazill
Peter Stewart
Henry Turnage
Wade Harris
Zach. Williams, Jr.
Edmund Jones
Thomas Williams

Nicholas W. Wells was Clerk of the Superior Court, and E. C. Beard served as Sheriff.

Charles J. McDonald with Oliver H. Prince and James Smith, were the first lawyers in Macon. The latter two had been among the five commissioners appointed to lay off the town. Other lawyers who shortly afterward joined them to form the bar which controlled the trade of this rapidly developing frontier town included Edward D. Tracy, Christopher B. Strong, Isaac H. Smith, Washington Poe, Henry G. Lamar, David B. Butler, John W. Campbell, Isaac G. Seymour, A. G. Clopton, John W. Mandell, and John P. Booth.

In October, 1823, the first election for legislators from Bibb County was held resulting in the selection of Charles Bullock as Senator and Dr. Stephen M. Ingersoll to serve in the House of Representatives. It was Dr. Ingersoll who introduced the bill for the incorporation of the town. Incident to the passage of this bill on December 8, 1823, was the appointment of the first town commissioners who were to take office on January 1, 1824, and to serve until January, 1825. On the first Monday in that month, and thereafter on the first Monday in January of each succeeding year, according to the act, all citizens of the town who were eligible to vote for members of the General Assembly were to meet at the town court house and elect five commissioners

to carry on town business. These commissioners served terms of one year and had "full power and authority to make any by-laws, ordinances, or regulations, with power to enforce the same, that they may deem best calculated to promote the general good of the citizens of said town".

The original group of Legislative appointed commissioners included Oliver H. Prince, David S. Booth, Samuel Wood, Charles J. Jenkins, and Seth Ward.

The five men who were first elected by their fellow citizens to hold office of commissioners were Elezar McCall, Alexander McGregor, James H. Rogers, William Moore, and Thomas G. Bates. James H. Rogers was chosen Intendant and Thomas G. Bates, Secretary of this group. (McCall's name on some old records is written Elezar and on others Eleazar). This type of elected control continued through 1832, and a chart of Commissioners from 1824 through 1832 together with state legislators chosen from Macon for those years may be found on Page 109. The Legislature of 1832 passed an act incorporating Macon "as a city with all the rights and privileges thereto", and in 1833 Isaac G. Seymour was elected the first Mayor of Macon.

E.—Early Military Installations

Out of the enthusiasm stirred up by the brief visit to Macon in 1825 of General LaFayette grew the first military corps organized in Macon. This corps, the Macon Volunteers, came into being on April 23, 1825, in a store owned by W. J. Dannelly. The Volunteers were destined for prominent roles in all the wars in which this country was later involved. Its first officers included Edward W. Wright, Captain; W. J. Dannelly, First Lieutenant; Robert Birdsong, Second Lieutenant; and John Chain, Third Lieutenant. Sixty members were immediately enrolled.

A temporary cavalry company with Dr. Ambrose Baber in command was organized early in October of 1831 at the time of a threatened slave insurrection, but it was not till the spring of 1834 that the Bibb Cavalry with Captain Goddard in command was formally begun.

During the summer of 1841 a third military company began when the Floyd Rifles organized with between fifty and sixty men. Their name honored General Charles Floyd, and Captain Ross was the first head of the body.

II Civic Progress

A—Population Increases

In late 1830 a census of the town showed the following figures:

White Males	824	
White Females	628	
Total		1452
Male Slaves	694	
Female Slaves	489	
Total		1183
Aggregate Total		2635

This number accounted for roughly one-third of the 7,159 persons reported on the county census, and it did not include the number on four acre lots. Figures for the much older towns of Savannah and Augusta for the year 1830 were 7,173 and 6,696 respectively.

Sherwood's *Gazetteer* reports seven years later: "Population of city in 1837, including E. Macon, which is the 4th Ward, 4,000; Population of Vineville about 500; Population of environs about 500; Total, about 5,000. Number of families W. side of the river about 275; E. side 30; Vineville 40 — Total about 385."

By 1840, a decade after the first official census of the town, Macon had a population of 2,291 whites and 3,952 blacks making a total of 6,243. The count in this census furnished by W. B. Cone showed a total of 15,155.

A final census of this period which did not include Vineville or that part of East Macon not included in the corporate city limits showed 4,180 population, of which number twenty-nine were listed as "free persons of color".

B—Problems Arising Out of Increased Population

1. Public Buildings

With the steady growth of population and of business in the infant town, various civic problems arose. Of course, one of the first of these was the provision of adequate buildings. As early as 1826, Myron Bartlett reported in the *Telegraph*, "There is still a scarcity of buildings in this place . . . it would appear they cannot build fast enough to meet the necessities of our rapidly growing population."

The first court house which was at best an unceiled one-room shack was soon the subject of protest by each succeeding Grand Jury. Built in 1825, it was located on Mulberry Street between Second and Third. Finally in 1828 the contract for the building of a new court house

was let to George Smith and Joseph Davidson for the sum of $12,750. The building was to be of brick, three stories high, 90 feet long, and 43 feet wide according to specifications published in the *Telegraph* on April 21, 1828. (In the *Gazetteer* of Adiel Sherwood published in 1837, the dimensions given are 93 by 47 feet.) Elam Alexander designed the building with large porticos on two sides and topped with a cupola. Completed in 1830, it was regarded for many years as the finest building of its type in the state. The first floor contained offices, the second a large room for Superior Court, and the third floor had rooms for clerks. The court house was not only the scene of legal activity but was used for public gatherings of all kinds and occasionally for a social gathering such as the Christmas Ball held there on Christmas Eve, 1829.

The earliest jail for the town was a substantially built log cabin located on lower Walnut Street near Fifth and probably built in 1823. A new jail was built in 1827 at the foot of Cherry Street near the old Sixth Street Cemetery. It was a well-built wooden structure, two stories high, and all windows and doors were heavily barred. This jail was used till the erection of a new one at the foot of Mulberry. Specifications for this third jail were that it should be 42 feet long, 36 feet wide, three stories high, floors and walls 2 inches thick with the walls covered inside and outside with sheet iron well spiked on. This new jail came on the heels of the presentment of the Grand Jury which reported that the jail was "in very poor condition and fails to answer purpose for which it was erected."

In January, 1829, John T. Rowland reported that there were in Macon more than one hundred wholesale and retail stores, eight or ten large warehouses, four banks, two printing offices, and three "neat and convenient" churches which were in prospect. These were in addition to the Court House and "a number of handsome dwelling houses."

The building which had been done along that portion of the old Federal Road, today called Cotton Avenue, now brought about the first deviation in the original plan for the city. What had originally been an old Indian trail crossing the Ocmulgee at a point called Rocky Ford had become a well marked out cotton road. It was shown on the early maps as the Federal Road, and with the growth of the town, small stores and houses had been built along either side to catch the trade of cotton merchants travelling along it. In spite of opposition from the merchants who had begun to build along Cherry Street—stores on that street did not extend as far as the road—it was decided to make a street of the inhabited part of the road which would intersect and end at Mulberry and to call it Cotton Avenue. The dissatisfaction of the Cherry Street merchants over the easier access of the Mulberry

Street stores to trade on the new street ended when Cherry was extended far enough to cross Cotton Avenue.

One additional public building should be mentioned. This was a new market completed in 1836. It was of brick and was plastered. Dimensions were 100 by 40 feet with the Council Room and office for the Clerk of the Council on the second floor. Above the building was a cupola containing the town clock and a bell weighing 1200 pounds. It was located in the center of the crossing of Mulberry and Fourth streets.

2. Banks

Increased trade brought the need for banks within the town. The earliest of these, the Branch Bank of Darien, began operation on October 30, 1825 in a brick building on the corner of Fifth and Cherry streets. (This was the first brick building in town and stood on the spot occupied today by the right wing of the Terminal Station.) Charles J. McDonald was President, and Samuel Wood was its first cashier. Directors included McDonald, Oliver H. Prince, Harrison Smith, Charles Bullock, and Rice Durrett. The opening of the bank which had been scheduled for January 2nd had been delayed because of a fire on December 26th which destroyed a house that had been rented by the bank. Only a few days before, funds had been transferred from Marion to this house in Macon which was on the west side of the public square and belonged to James Holderness. The total loss in money was $13,000 in Darien bills, $6,000 of which was in Bank of Hamburg Bills and $7,000 in notes to individuals in and around Savannah. The house valued at $3,000 was also a total loss.

It was only a short time after the opening of this bank that the Macon Bank opened for business in November, 1826. Banking operations went on in the basement of a building on the corner of Fourth and Wharf streets with G. B. Lamar, President, and James Rea, Cashier. Later the bank was moved into a new brick building in 1831. This bank failed in July, 1832, with heaviest loss to the country people among whom the bulk of its now worthless bills had been circulated. Because of the excitement created by this unexpected failure, a joint committee from both houses of the state Legislature was appointed to investigate its affairs, but to quote from Butler, "the principal witness, Thomas M. Ellis, the late president, who was an innocent man, through the exasperation of some of the parties lost his life." So the majority and the minority reports agreed only "that the bank had been carelessly and improperly managed."

In somewhat rapid succession there followed the establishment of several other banks. By 1829 a branch of the State Bank was open for business in the second brick house on Walnut between Second and Third, with John T. Rowland as President and Jacob Wilcox as

Cashier. A branch bank of the United States started a brick building in late 1831. On the corner of Walnut and Fourth, a branch of the Marine and Fire Insurance Bank opened with Harrison Smith as President and Joseph Washburn as Cashier.

In conjunction with the railroad movement which will be discussed in detail in a later section, a branch bank of the Central Rail Road Company opened for business in April, 1836, while in February, 1837, the principal bank of the Monroe Rail Road and Banking Company elected officers for their firm in Macon. The presidency of the Central Bank was first offered to Dr. Ambrose Baber, but upon his refusal Jerry Cowles was named President and Isaac B. Rowland, Cashier. During the first year of operation, the Central erected a building on the east side of Mulberry Street between Third and Fourth. Directors in addition to Cowles were Robert A. Beall, Robert Collins, James Goddard, F. H. Wellman, David Ralston, and William Solomon.

Shareholders of the Monroe Company elected Gen. L. L. Griffin, President. Other directors were Henry Solomon, T. G. Holt, Alfred Brooks, James Dean, John Jones, and A. R. Ralston. The Cashier was James Land and Bookkeeper was Jeremiah Leak.

Late in December of 1836, a bill was passed in the State Legislature incorporating the Ocmulgee Bank which opened for business on April 10, 1837. Directors were Jerry Cowles, H. G. Lamar, E. Hamilton, James Rea, Eugenius A. Nisbet, W. B. Johnston, and Elijah Sinclair. Jerry Cowles became President, and James T. Lamar was Cashier. Joseph A. White was Bookkeeper. This bank continued operation till November 25, 1842 when its affairs became so entangled with those of the Southwestern Rail Road Bank of Charleston that had been its actual owners for four years that the best of its assets were paid out to the Charleston Bank, and further operation became impossible.

The Bank of Brunswick opened for business in November, 1837, with Col. Henry Dubignon, President, and I. C. Plant, formerly of Augusta, as Cashier.

The year 1837 brought a crisis in banking occasioned by the failure of certain banks throughout the country and the stoppage of specie payment on the part of many others. This was due in large measure to a depression in England with a resultant decline in the importation of cotton causing a general falling off of trade. The condition was keenly felt all over the young nation. Five Macon banks resorted to suspension of specie payment, but this payment was resumed by October, 1838.

One cannot trace the history of banking during this period without mentioning the disastrous city fire of October, 1841, in which the buildings of both the Insurance Bank of Columbus and of the Ocmulgee Bank were blown up to save the upper part of the city. Then in

1845 there was a robbery of the Merchants Bank. Entry was made through the floor of the building, and about five or six hundred dollars were stolen from the vault which was forced by removing the bricks on which it rested.

3. Hotels

Shortly after the founding of Macon it became necessary to set up a stage coach relay station where horses might be changed and supplies for the operation of the stage coaches might be kept. This was done on the northeast corner of Orange and Forsyth street, and it was quite natural that an inn or hotel be set up here, too. Beasley's Tavern, or Pealicker Hotel as it was sometimes called, was built on the northwest corner across Orange street from the present school building. It advertised by means of a sign "Entertainment for Man and Beast" and was a favorite stopping place for through stage coach travel.

Perhaps the most widely renowned hostelry of this early period was Washington Hall Hotel completed on the south corner of Mulberry and Second streets in February, 1827. This hotel and Beasley's Tavern were the regular stops for the New York to New Orleans stage coaches.

Less than three months after Washington Hall Hotel opened its doors, Judge E. E. Brown opened a new hotel on the corner of Walnut and First streets called the Yellow House. Then in 1833 Macon's first brick hotel, the Central Hotel, was built on the south corner of Mulberry and Third streets. The original proprietors were Williams and Bond, but after a succession of changes it passed into the hands of Sterling Lanier, the grandfather of poet Sidney Lanier. This hotel had two years earlier been the site of a fish pond; the pond had been drained and filled in. It was destroyed by fire in the late thirties, the land around it was filled in, and a new hotel called the Floyd House was built upon that location. The ground level was at the time of its building twelve feet higher than the ground floor of the older Central Hotel.

This accounts for the main hotels of the period exclusive of those mentioned in connection with the early buildings in the city.

4. Newspapers

In early 1827 there were only sixteen newspapers in publication in Georgia, and of that number two were located in Macon. Included in addition were two in Savannah, three in Augusta, four in Milledgeville, two in Athens, one in Washington, one in Darien, and one at Mount Zion.

Exactly two weeks after the first lots were sold in Macon the *Messenger* with Matthew Robertson as editor published its first issue on March 21, 1823. The press that he used was an oak one made in England which he had bought at auction for $30 when the editor of the

Columbian Advocate, a newspaper published at Louisville, Ga., died insolvent several years before. This press Mr. Matthews destroyed when he bought a new one later. In its own words the paper was "to attach itself to no party, but will contain as little Error and as much Truth as may be in the Editor's power to give the Public." The paper which had its first offices in Newtown bore a date line with the name Fort Hawkins, Ga., on it until December 10, 1823, when the office was moved across the river.

On August 4th of its first year, Robertson announced his partnership with Simri Rose who played so dominant a role in the early



Simri Rose

Courtesy Mrs. Viola Ross Napier.

history of Macon. According to the memoirs of Mrs. Hermione Ross Walker, Rose who came to Fort Hawkins in 1818 had learned the printing business when apprenticed to Harper and Brothers in New York City. After his migration from his native state of Connecticut he had begun at Fort Hawkins a small hand written newspaper called "The Bull Dog." Circulation was by messenger boy to his subscribers who passed the paper from one to the other. The slogan of this paper reads, "The Bull Dog is no cur of low degree. He wags his tail to men of honesty. He bites and growls at knaves and rogues. He is the Dog of Dogs." One issue of "The Bull Dog" is located in the Library of Wesleyan College.

In 1826 on November 1st a second weekly newspaper, the *Macon Telegraph,* began publication. Myron Bartlett was its editor, and its publication has been continuous since that date. During the year 1831 Bartlett experimented with a daily as well as a weekly *Telegraph,* but the outcome of the venture was not highly successful.

Two other newspapers existed briefly in Macon during these decades. One of these, *The Macon Advertiser and Agricultural and Mercantile Intelligencer,* popularly called the *Advertiser,* began publication on April 19, 1831, with Marmaduke Slade as editor. It continued through January 15, 1833, when it was removed to Milledgeville and reappeared as "The Times and States Right Advocate."

Toward the end of the period, W. A. and C. Thompson began the publication of the *American Democrat* on May 17, 1843. William Green was editor, and it seems from its editorial slant to have been primarily a political paper formed to support the nomination of John C. Calhoun for President. When he withdrew from the race in 1844, the paper shortly afterward ceased publication.

5. Fire Protection

While Macon mushroomed over the area originally surveyed and on into the commons to the north, the danger of fire became an increasing menace to the town. On April 7, 1828, in reporting a fire on the east side of the river on the street leading from the bridge, the *Telegraph* stated, "This we believe is the third fire that has happened in Macon since its settlement."

The town had no fire fighting equipment. As early as January 15, 1831, notice was published in the newspaper of a meeting of citizens interested in the organization of a fire company. In May, 1831, an order for two fire engines and 500 feet of hose was made by the Town Commissioners, but delivery was delayed so long that the disastrous fire of December, 1831, gained so much headway that it destroyed every building in the square on the west side of Mulberry street between Third and Fourth including the office of the *Macon Telegraph.* Six families were left homeless. There was high praise in the news-

papers of two unnamed negroes who did much toward stopping further spread of the fire. The two engines ordered earlier finally arrived from Philadelphia by way of boat from Savannah in April, 1832, and were put into immediate use. These engines cost $2,000, and they were from the firm of Merrick and Agnew in Philadelphia. James Goddard, owner of the only iron foundry in town, was appointed to control the larger engine and Charles Campbell the smaller one until further arrangements could be made. In 1833 the Ax and Ladder Company, later changed to the Macon Hook and Ladder Company, was organized with Frank S. Bloom as foreman; W. J. McElroy, assistant; Geo. C. Freeman, secretary; and Geo. S. O'Bear, treasurer.

In early 1834 a fire on Cotton Avenue threatened the city for a time, but wind in an easterly direction prevented its spread. Later there were frequent reports of fires in the newspapers, often with the comment that they were attempts to fire the town although there was usually no evidence offered beyond the fact that they appeared to have been deliberately set. One such attempt originated among the cotton bales in the warehouse of John T. Rowland, but early discovery saved the building.

In January, 1839, the City Council passed laws regarding fire control. One of these provided for the annual appointment of four Fire Wardens. Each building in town was to be equipped with fire buckets according to the number of chimneys it contained, and the fire wardens were to inspect each building inside the city every six months as to the proper condition of stoves, stove pipes, and chimneys, and to determine if it had a proper supply of buckets. In 1840 two new engines ordered earlier by City Council arrived and were delivered to the Washington Fire Company. A third company called the Niagara Company seems to have also been formed by this time. However, fire fighting continued to be a most perplexing problem for the City Council which in May, 1840, passed a resolution offering $10 to the first man to appear at a fire within the city with a hogshead of water provided he arrived within twenty minutes after the fire alarm. Second and third arrivals were to be awarded $5 and $3 respectively. All these measures failed to prevent a costly fire in October, 1841, when two buildings had to be dynamited to save the rest of the city.

Final efforts to improve fire protection in this period came in late April, 1842, when another group of citizens convened to organize a fire company and to man more new equipment. They moved that City Council be petitioned to appoint James Goddard to be Chief Engineer of the fire department and that a committee call on some negroes for the purpose of forming two more companies to work the old engines. A last disastrous fire of these first two decades occurred in August, 1844, resulting in an estimated $38,000 damage and the loss, among

other buildings, of the first brick building erected in the city, that of the Branch Bank of Darien. The city had not solved its problem of fire protection, but it had taken masterly steps in the right direction.

6. Health Measures

The climate and the location of Macon favored good health, and in spite of epidemics of cholera and of smallpox in other parts of the young nation, the town of Macon remained surprisingly healthy. The citizens were alert when it came to the problem of health, however, and as early as 1827, the Town Commissioners passed a ruling against allowing dogs to run loose in the streets because a mad dog had been reported. They were petitioned a month or so later for legislation to control hogs that were being allowed to run wild; later there was a public catching and penning of these hogs. In June, 1832, at the regular meeting of the Town Commissioners with Levi Eckley as Intendant, Macon was laid out in ten wards with two health officers appointed for each ward. This was probably the outgrowth of a national cholera scare. The first organized group of wardens submitted its report for the first time on June 28, 1832, and it was signed by Dr. Ambrose Baber, chairman, and Nathan C. Munroe, secretary, of the Board of Health. Later T. G. Holt was named chairman of the Board of Health organized in May, 1834, and William G. Macon was secretary. They announced their inspection of all city property for cleanliness and said that means of removal of trash had been placed in the streets in all sections and that certain individuals had been warned of violations of some of the health regulations. In 1837 a city ordinance forbade the throwing of trash and rubbish into streets and also into alleys.

During April, 1842, the town received a scare when a negro woman living about a mile and a half outside the city limits died of smallpox. Immediate ruling forbade all who had been in contact with the woman during her illness to enter the city. This set loose exaggerated rumors which for a period of about two months hurt the fresh produce market in Macon because farmers were afraid to come into the city. But the rumors finally died down when no additional cases developed.

7. Water

Closely allied to the problem of health was that of the water supply, and here, too, Macon had the natural advantage of many springs and underground streams that could be tapped without too great difficulty. As far as the Ocmulgee was concerned, the only problems it posed were those of transportation and, surprisingly, of social regulation. In an 1823 issue of the *Messenger,* the editor deplores bathing in the river near the ferry as "ladies of respectability" often found it necessary to wait an hour or two for persons bathing to come out and dress before they could without offending their sense of propriety cross the

river. No idea of using this water for drinking purposes seems to have been entertained. One of the first rulings passed by the Town Commissioners of 1824 forbade bathing in the river within the town limits before 8 o'clock at night, and others governed the use of town pumps and public springs. Later a Pump Committee was appointed to check the condition of public pumps and keep them in order. There were occasional letters to the editor complaining that this committee did not always function satisfactorily. Alexander McGregor was named Pump Connector for the latter part of 1834, and his job was keeping pumps in repair. In 1836 the City Council announced an election to choose a Pump Contractor for a period of one year beginning July 2nd. Finally in May, 1840, the Mayor was instructed by Council to secure a person to make a survey of the cost of construction of a reservoir for water on College Hill, but it was not until ten years later that an actual city water system was set up.

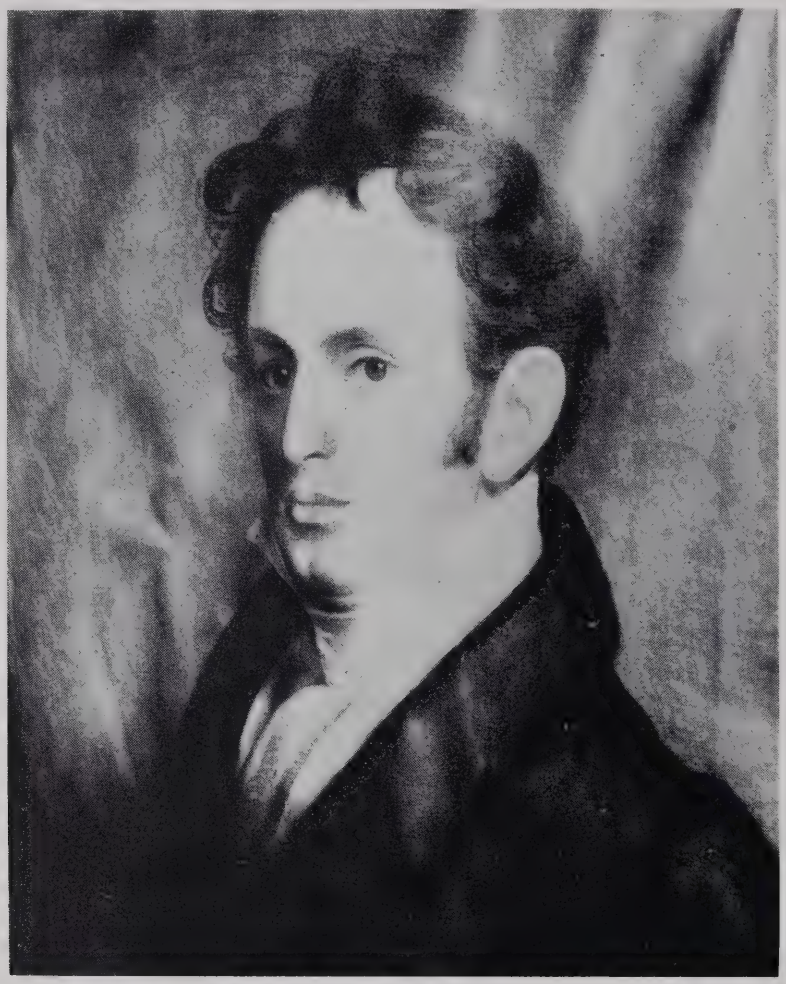
8. Organization Beginnings

Several present day organizations had their beginnings during these first two decades of Macon's history. A Masonic Lodge was the first of these. Under the leadership of Dr. Ambrose Baber, Macon Lodge, No. 5, F.A.M., began work under dispensation on July 28, 1824. Its charter was granted on August 17, 1825. This was the Lodge that extended to LaFayette an invitation to visit Macon. Its first officers were: Dr. Baber, Worshipful Master; Eleazar McCall, Senior Warden; Edward D. Tracy, Junior Warden; Ebenezer Keeney, Treasurer; and Johnathan A. Hudson, Secretary.

On September 21, 1829, a group gathered at the Methodist church to form "a society for the promotion of Temperance." Col. Edward W. Wright acted as chairman of this organization meeting, and Maj. Matthew Robertson was appointed secretary.

An organizational meeting of twenty teachers from all over the state was held at the court house in Milledgeville in late December, 1831. The group decided to be called the *Teachers Society and Board of Education of the State of Georgia,* to meet regularly on the third Monday in December, and to name C. P. Beman, President of Oglethorpe University near Milledgeville, their first President. The first real meeting of the newly formed group held in Macon at the Methodist church in June, 1832, heard an address by Thomas B. Slade, head of an academy at Clinton, Georgia, on the advantages of education and the most desirable means of procuring it. This meeting was poorly attended, and the association which survived only three years is of significance only because it was a forerunner of the modern Georgia Education Association.

The Macon Lyceum and Library Society came into being on December 31, 1837. Dr. Ambrose Baber was its President, Washington Poe



Dr. Ambrose Baber
Courtesy Miss Birdie Baber Blackshear.

and Jerry Cowles were vice-presidents, William Melrose and Charles Cotton were recording secretaries, and Nathan C. Munroe was corresponding secretary and treasurer. Munroe's files of current newspapers of his day have made invaluable additions to Macon libraries. However, it was not until 1841 that a committee of the Macon Literary Association composed of T. W. Collins, H. C. Freeman, and William Taylor recommended the starting of a library in Macon, their object stated in their own words being "to procure a selection of those Authors whose writings will have a tendency to advance us nearer our object—the improvement of our moral and intellectual natures." By August they had collected from citizens about 600 books which were being arranged for public use.

One additional organization deserves consideration here as an indi-

cation of the trend of the times and as an evidence of the interest of townspeople in cultural affairs. This was the Macon Dramatic Company formed in September, 1836, whose purpose was to get scenery, costumes, and other necessary materials to give what they termed "theatrical exhibitions." It was an amateur group whose first appearance on September 29th of that year featured "Warlock of Glen." This was followed in December by a double feature, a tragedy called "Pizarro", and a farce, "Apprentice or The Would-be Actor."

9. Cemeteries

It would be incomplete to follow the course of civic progress growing out of increased population without a brief summary of the development of cemeteries in Macon. Mention has already been made of the Sixth street area set aside in the original survey. According to further records, a painter named John Clark was the first person to be interred here. For some years after its abandonment in 1840 this cemetery was badly neglected, and today finds it in a state of terrific disorder in spite of a recent clean-up campaign on the part of the city. The arch over the entrance bearing the dates 1825-1840 is in good repair along with some newly built steps leading up to the rather high lot, but overgrown as it is with weeds, brambles, and scrubby mulberries, the visitor can with difficulty decipher a few of the names on the badly worn old headstones. One walled enclosure with a small iron gate holds the remains of Thomas Napier. Another grave bears the inscription "Sacred to Memory of Rebecca Pace, Consort of Thomas Pace and daughter of Jared Irwin" with the date December 30, 1828. This is evidently the daughter of one of Georgia's prominent early governors. On another is the name of Harriet Collins, wife of Dr. Robert Collins who was prominent in early Macon history. She died on April 20, 1831. Others contained the names of Thomas M. Ellis, October 3, 1832; the infant daughter of David and Rebecca Butler, February 18, 1831; Cinderella Gainer, wife of Joseph Gainer, with her infant daughter, April 29, 1837; Stephen S. Goodrich, a native of Oswego, New York; and Thomas Jackson Saulsbury, born in Dover, Delaware, and died in Macon on July 23, 1831. One section contains the graves of several natives of Ireland such as Nicholas Scott from Tipperary, Ireland, and Francis Traynor. These possibly were some of the Irish workmen who came to help in the building of the Monroe Railroad. Others cannot be completely deciphered but are marked natives of Ireland. A few half-hearted iris, two crepe myrtle bushes struggling to bloom, and a tiger lily or two are silent reminders of loving tribute once paid to these dead.

Among the acts of the Legislature for December, 1823, was a measure "to grant and secure to commissioners of the incorporation of the town

of Macon five acres of ground at or near Fort Hawkins for the purpose of a public burying ground." This is still in use as Fort Hill Cemetery.

Then in 1838, when additional burial grounds became desirable Simri Rose, with the idea of Mount Auburn in Boston in mind, chose a spot on the bank of the Ocmulgee above the upper ferry site as an ideal one. When City Council finally decided to set this tract aside in 1840, Simri Rose, Jerry Cowles, J. Williams, and Isaac Scott were appointed a committee to superintend the laying out of the new cemetery. It is generally conceded that Rose superintended in person the clearing out and improvements of those grounds, importing many kinds of shrubs and trees to add to the beauty of the place. It was only fitting, therefore, as it is recorded in the Council minutes published on March 27, 1840, "That the new Burial Ground on the river above the city be known by the name of 'Rose Hill Cemetery'," and that Council should further provide in May of the same year that Simri Rose be given a free lot in Rose Hill of his choice.

C—Educational Developments

The start of public education through the founding of academies in Bibb County has been traced, but one additional impetus to education must be noted in connection with the civic progress of the period. That is the founding of the first college in the world chartered to grant a degree to women on the same basis of work as those granted to men. Forerunners of this charter included first a bill introduced in the Georgia Legislature in 1825 by Duncan Campbell, a brilliant lawyer from Washington, Georgia, to provide a college for the education of women. This bill was defeated, and after the death of Campbell in 1828 interest in the subject of female education waned until 1835 when Daniel Chandler spoke on that topic before an audience at the Commencement exercises of the University of Georgia. At the suggestion of John M. Berrien the address was published in pamphlet form, and 5,000 copies were circulated throughout the state. At this time the citizens of Macon were thinking of building a seminary for females in addition to the Bibb County Academy, which was co-educational, when the Georgia Methodist Conference convened in Macon in 1835. Learning that the Conference was also contemplating such a school, the citizens appointed a committee composed of Robert Augustus Beall, Jerry Cowles, Robert Collins, and Henry G. Lamar to secure the support of the local ministers—Reverends John Howard, Elijah Sinclair, and John W. Talley—toward getting the Conference to select Macon as the site for its school. Meanwhile the citizens approached City Council with an eye to securing the five acres on Encampment Hill set aside two years before when lots on the Commons were sold. Council agreed to let them have the land for $2,500. A



Original Building of Wesleyan College
Courtesy Wesleyan Alumnae Association.

called meeting of the citizens on July 8, 1836, subscribed $9,000 toward the college, and in January, 1836, the Conference took the newly instituted Georgia Female College under its fostering care. The state granted a charter to the institution on December 23, 1836, and the building designed by Elam Alexander was completed and opened on January 7, 1839.

A copy of "Georgia Illustrated" published in 1842 found in the Candler Library of Wesleyan College carries this description of the college building:

"The college building is located on a commanding eminence midway between the business portion of the city of Macon and the village of Vineville. The city is spread out upon the plain below; the surrounding hills are crowned with private mansions of the most tasteful architecture. On the western side is Vineville with its quiet dwellings and the majestic pine forests nearby; on the north are the ruins of old Fort Hawkins. Blockhouses and the relics of ancient fortifications are remaining, to connect its present peaceful habitations with the stir and clangor of martial troops and deadly strife.

"The college edifice is an imposing structure, one hundred and sixty feet long and sixty feet wide, rising four stories high in the center and crowned with a cupola. There are fifty-six rooms in the building. The chapel is on the second floor. It is forty feet wide, extending in length across the whole breadth of the building. The third and fourth stories are divided into dormitories. There are spacious rooms, generally eighteen feet square, with large windows and high ceilings. The plan is to put four young ladies in a room, the furniture to be provided by the occupants."[10]

First president of the historic old institution was 28 year old George Foster Pierce who was described by Georgia statesman Robert Toombs as "the most symmetrical man, the handsomest, the most gifted intellectually and the purest in life of any man I have ever known."

According to the 1839 catalog there were 20 men on the board of trustees representing some of the outstanding lawyers, judges, legislators, ministers, and planters of the day. Ten of these, called Conference Trustees included: Samuel K. Hodges, William Arnold, Lovick Pierce, William J. Parks, Elijah Sinclair, James O. Andrew, John W. Talley, Alexander Speer, Willis D. Mathews, and I. A. Few. Others were: Everard Hamilton, treasurer; Henry G. Lamar, Jerry Cowles, Absalom H. Chappell, George Jewett, Ossian Gregory, Augustus B. Longstreet, Walter T. Colquitt, Peyton L. Wade, and Abner H. Flewellen.

When registration began on this January day, ninety young ladies enrolled at once as students. Some of these were listed in the "Junior Class", several of this number coming from the private academy of Thomas B. Slade at Clinton with their instructor who became a member of the original college faculty. Accordingly, on July 16, 1840, eleven of these students graduated. Catherine E. Brewer, later Mrs. Richard A. Benson, by reason of alphabetical listing of names, received the first diploma. So she became the first woman ever to receive a diploma from a chartered college for women. Her diploma is a treasured possession of Wesleyan College.

A preliminary feature of graduation was the custom of holding public and oral examinations before an examining committee, and one of the interested visitors at this first examination was Hon. C. J. McDonald, Governor of Georgia. Another was Norborne B. Powell who had received a silver pitcher from the citizens of Macon for his help as a Georgia legislator at the time of the granting of the college charter.

President Pierce in this part of the first baccalaureate address, made at the institution now recognized as the pioneer in the field of higher education for women, was more a prophet than he realized with these words:

10. Georgia Illustrated.

"The sphere of woman is constantly enlarging as education fits her for loftier duties and Christian philanthropy multiplies her means of doing good. If every successive year do not witness the augmentation of female influence upon the best interests of mankind — if the dawning glories of the day that science and commerce and religion are rolling to the zenith do not wake a most generous ambition — then will the guilt of a most culpable neglect lie at your door."

However, the college which had begun under such favorable auspices had storms ahead. In 1842 the future looked somewhat uncertain because an original debt secured by a mortgage on the building could not be paid. The creditors who held the mortgage sold the building which was bought in by friends of the college who sold it back to the institution at exactly the figure they had paid. Then the trustees having legal title to the building made application for a new charter which was granted, and the name of the school was changed to Wesleyan Female College.

III Growth of Transportation

A—Roads

At the beginning of the actual laying out of the town of Macon there was one road from the unsettled area on the west bank of the river through Fort Hawkins and on to Milledgeville. This was called the Federal Road, and it came in by way of what is today the Columbus Road, to Montpelier Avenue, to College Street, to Cotton Avenue to the ferry. A ferry at the site of the Fifth Street bridge had been built several years before the beginning of the city by David Flanders and Joseph Willett. On the other side of the Ocmulgee, the road crossed Walnut Creek at a ford. In addition to the Federal Road, there was early in the history of Macon the Forsyth Road which probably entered the city by way of Vineville Avenue, Hardeman Avenue, Washington Avenue and First Street. In the very early years of the town a new road was cut about a mile above the town leading into the Federal Road above the head of Cotton Avenue. This was probably Forsyth Street. In 1828 a new Post Route from Macon to Savannah by way of Marion and Dublin went into operation.

The road leading to Perry was called the "Tobesaufky Causeway", and in March, 1830, after much complaint from its readers about the condition of the road, the *Telegraph* suggested that this road be properly constructed with its borders planted with shrubbery and Bermuda grass to prevent washing along the edges. The paper spoke of a chasm where carriages had to be unloaded and of deep holes in the causeway where mud made passage almost impossible.

In 1831 the new Mulberry Street Road was announced completed. It was a continuation of the street in a straight line from the Court

House by the Methodist Church coming into the Forsyth Road about a mile from the town. It was a higher road than the other one and was said to be "in highly finished condition." About $25,000 which had been raised by voluntary contributions had been spent upon it. Much of this money had come from people living in the village of Vineville.

Good roads continued to be a source of civic endeavor. In the presentments of the Grand Jury in March, 1837, signed by Zachariah H. Gordon, Foreman, one of the topics discussed was the need for the improvement of roads and bridges. These early roads although not heavily settled were well travelled by farmers bringing fresh produce to the city markets and cotton to the warehouses along the river for shipment to Darien and Savannah. Along them also passed the stage coach routes. In Sherwood's *Gazetteer* of 1837 is this report: "Stages, daily 6; every other day 1; hacks, every other day 3." One of these Macon stages was the line from New York to New Orleans which came in from Clinton and followed the Federal Road. Macon was also a stop on the Milledgeville to Columbus route, the fare from Milledgeville to Macon being $4.00. It was on the Milledgeville to Pensacola route, and three times a week a stage ran from Savannah to Macon and back. The time for one way of the latter trip was thirty-six hours, and the fare $18. Stages also operated from Macon to Columbus by way of Forsyth, Thomaston, and Marshall's Ferry; during part of the year to LaGrange by way of Forsyth and Barnesville and Zebulon; and in summer to the very popular Indian Springs summer resort.

These vehicles were sturdily built of oak and hickory wood and of iron and leather. The springs were of leather, and the body swayed rhythmically so that travelling was not too uncomfortable even over the somewhat poorly built roads. They were operated by stock companies and carried ten passengers, nine on the inside and one outside beside the driver. Each passenger was allowed fifty pounds of baggage which was kept in a sort of leather pocket called a boot at the rear. Mail was carried for protection in a similar boot under the feet of the driver. The fare was 10 cents a mile and the rate of speed eight to ten miles an hour. Relay stations were usually ten to fifteen miles apart. The driver carried a bugle or trumpet which he sounded lustily well in advance to announce his stops.

B—Ocmulgee Bridge

Almost immediately after settlement began in Macon, a movement was launched to secure the building of a bridge across the Ocmulgee. The September term of the Grand Jury with John Loving, Foreman, in 1823 recommended the building of such a bridge in its presentments, and the Legislature of 1824 was petitioned for a bill providing

for the erection of a "toll bridge across the Okmulgee at Macon." The petition was granted and in February, 1825, advertisement was made of the letting of the contract for the Macon Bridge on April 25th by the bridge commissioners: Luke J. Morgan, Charles Bullock, Mortimer R. Wallis, Samuel Gillespie, and William Bivins. Architects were invited to submit scale models by March 15th with a prize of $100 offered for the one chosen.

This first bridge was built at state expense by Daniel Pratt and Alexander McGregor in the same spot as the Fifth Street bridge of today and was completed in late 1826. In writing of it, Bartlett, editor of the *Telegraph*, reported: "An elegant bridge has just been completed across the Oakmulgee at this place, which will not only add to the convenience of the citizens of Macon, but will greatly facilitate the intercourse between the old and new counties. The style and workmanship of the bridge are such as will do credit to the architects."

In spite of the fact that cotton wagons were to pass without toll, the bridge was rented for the year 1827 for $4,600, a sum $795 in excess of the ferry rental for 1826. In early 1827 this bridge drew profit from the migration of settlers to the New Purchase or the Chattahoochee country, on some days as many as twenty or thirty families going across.

An attempt was made in October, 1828, to sell the bridge at a previously advertised public auction, and it was knocked down to the highest bidder for $26,150. However, this would-be buyer could not comply with terms of the sale which were one-fifth cash and the balance in four equal installments so the sale fell through. Later the bridge was sold to the city for $25,000 with terms of one-tenth down and the balance in nine annual installments. The city was forbidden to collect toll on vehicles loaded with cotton or corn, and the transfer of ownership was to be effective on January 6, 1829. Foot passengers also passed toll free. In late March of the next year unknown persons removed a part of the floor of the bridge during the night leaving a chasm of five or six feet over the swiftest part of the river. However, the gap was discovered at daylight, and no casualties resulted.

Because of heavy rains in March, 1833, two piers of the bridge washed away and City Council established a temporary ferry. By January, 1834, work on the bridge had progessed to the opening for foot passengers, and by March repairs under the direction of John Godwin had been completed. Sherwood's *Gazetteer* reported its cost at $17,000 and dimensions of 25 by 389 feet with two tracks of 12 feet each.

In 1837 the bridge keeper reported receipt of $561 in tolls for a five weeks period. In December of that year heavy rains set a boat adrift that beat against the bridge causing some damage to the center

pier, though not so great as to stop traffic across it. The bridge continued to be, throughout the period, a source of annual revenue to the town.

C—Boat Travel on the Ocmulgee

Travel on the Ocmulgee, of course, far antedates the era of the white man, but it is with the coming of Roger McCall, Harrison Smith, and Eleazar McCall that a new period of river transportation began. These early boats were really flat bottomed bateaus which were loaded with cotton and poled down the river to Darien. During weeks of dry weather the river was sometimes unnavigable even for these. In 1824 a boat called the "Red Bird" passed up the river to a point called Tompkins Ferry giving proof that the river was navigable to a point beyond Macon, a fact which had been doubted before. The Legislature of 1826 appropriated $20,000 for improvement of navigation on the Ocmulgee, $10,000 to be spent above Macon and $10,000 below the city. In January, 1827, the newspaper of the day recorded the launching of three large new boats to travel between Macon and Darien. There was great excitement on January 15, 1829 when the steamboat "North Carolina" docked in Macon after a run of eight days from Darien. Extremely low water had prevented its earlier arrival. Under command of Captain Thomas R. Saltar, this was the first steamboat ever to navigate the river. It had been built in North Carolina and was regularly used in the waters of the Cape Fear River. There was much speculation and some fright on the part of people who lived along the river when they heard the strange sound of the boat coming up the stream, and this colloquial description of a steamboat appeared in the local paper under the caption *Johnathan's Description of A Steam Boat*: "It's got a gristmill on one side, and a sawmill on t'other, and a blacksmith shop in the middle; and down a cellar there's a tarnation pot boiling all the time."

The "North Carolina" was purely an experiment, but on January 23, 1833, the "Pioneer" built by Charles Day and James R. Butts made its first of many regular trips from Macon to Darien under Captain McCormick. Built in Macon, it carried to Darien two heavily loaded barges, the "Bonnets O' Blue" and the "Lalla Rookh." From that time for several years eight steamers and sixty tow boats continued to ply between Macon and Darien carrying cotton, freight, and passengers. One of these, the "Water Nymph" was destroyed by fire on her first return trip to Savannah in 1834 with a loss of 500 bales of cotton and one negro woman and child. During the same year the "Excel" was launched, the first trip being as usual the occasion of short river excursions with music and feasting, with ladies as guests. In 1835 the Legislature appropriated an additional $10,000 to be used

in cleaning out the Ocmulgee. During 1836 there were four steamboats riding at anchor in the river including three new ones, the "Pioneer" belonging to James R. Butts and a successor to the first "Pioneer", the "Comet", belonging to the Ocmulgee Navigation Company, and the "Superior", property of James Goddard. The "Pioneer" later blew up about 70 miles north of Darien and ten men were killed. As late in this period as 1840, after one railroad had begun to operate and another was near completion, a celebration was held at the Central Hotel honoring James R. Butts upon the arrival of a new steamboat, the "Sam Jones." The steamboat "Robert Collins" set a speed record with its arrival from Savannah on December 22, 1841. The trip from wharf to wharf was made in seventy-four hours which was claimed to be the shortest trip by water ever made between the two places. This was a sharp contrast to the record set before the use of steamboats by the "Ariel" in 1829 of a round trip from Macon to Darien in twenty-three days—five down, three loading, and fifteen returning.

As was only natural, however, river transportation began increasingly to fade in significance toward the end of this period when a railroad between Macon and Savannah began to operate. Some of the water has been diverted by hydroelectric plants and industries, and the channel has long since become choked with river sediment and with snags.

D—Railroads

By 1831 a new mode of transportation was being strongly advocated by some farseeing individuals, occasioned probably by the proof that a steam locomotive could be so built as to round a curve and the fact that one had been put into use on January 14, 1830, by the Charlestown and Hamburg railroad. But as it had its staunch advocates, it also had its bitter opponents such as the individual who in a letter to *The Macon Advertiser* signed "an Observer" said that "a railroad would not only injure Macon in its growth and general improvement but it would forever blast its commercial importance." He argued that merchants could then take their cotton directly to Savannah and Macon's trade would be cut down. In spite of such public sentiment, however, a number of citizens convened at Macon on August 31, 1831, to consider the best methods of uniting public sentiment and interest and efforts toward the building and use of railroads. Oliver H. Prince served as chairman and William P. Hunter as secretary of this meeting. The chief accomplishment of the meeting was the naming of delegates to attend a state railroad convention to be held at Eatonton in September. These delegates were Oliver H. Prince and Dr. W. B. Rodgers. The group convened in the church in Eatonton on Monday,

September 26, 1831. Thirty-two of the seventy-eight counties in the state were represented at this meeting over which Oliver H. Prince presided as chairman. The body recommended a careful survey of all lines of communication—railroads, turnpikes, and canals—by the state, and especially recommended investigation of the following possible lines:

1. From Savannah to Augusta, then to Eatonton and west to the Chattahoochee
2. From Savannah to Macon with a branch line connecting to Milledgeville
3. From Savannah to a point on the Flint and then to Columbus
4. A line from Augusta to Athens and then to the northwest boundary of the state.

The meeting is significant both because it made Georgia a pioneer in railroad history and because it led almost immediately to action resulting in the starting of railroad lines.

Upon a report of the estimated cost of $1,500,000 for a proposed Savannah-Macon-Columbus railroad made by William B. Bulloch, chairman of a survey committee, a call for a public meeting of interested Macon citizens to be held at the Court House on October 26, 1833, was issued by Dr. Ambrose Baber and Everard Hamilton. A similar meeting was called by Elias Beall and A. M. D. King at Forsyth on November 15th to adopt measures with regard to the extension of this road from Macon to Forsyth. As an outgrowth of these meetings and a similar one in Savannah, the Legislature of 1833 granted to the corporations of Macon and Savannah power to build a railroad or a canal between the two. Actual sale of stock in the Central Rail Road of Georgia was begun in June, 1835. In the first three days the citizens of Macon took up 700 shares of stock. More than a million dollars had already been subscribed in Savannah. Later in October books were opened for subscriptions on stock for the Macon to Forsyth railroad, and the sum of $200,000 was quickly subscribed.

On December 17, 1835, the Legislature finally passed the bill to charter the Central Rail Road and Banking Company, and there was great celebration in the town over the news. Bells were rung, guns were fired, the city was brilliantly lighted, and a ball was given in honor of the occasion. Public honor was paid to Dr. Baber of Macon and to McAllister of Savannah, the two Senators who had worked so hard for the passage of the bill. The first rail was laid in Savannah in 1835. W. W. Gordon was named first president of this company while Jerry Cowles was president of the Macon branch bank.

Seven delegates were appointed in 1836 by Isaac Seymour who had served as chairman of a Macon meeting held to choose delegates to represent the city in a General Rail Road Convention to be held in

Knoxville, Tennessee, on July 4th. These delegates were Washington Poe, Edward D. Tracy, Jerry Cowles, Absalom H. Chappell, James R. Butts, Robert Collins, and Henry G. Lamar. Four of these delegates, Lamar, Poe, Butts, and Cowles, made the trip on horseback taking a survey of the country as they proceeded. The question under consideration by the convention was the determination of a route from Cincinnati to a southern port. Upon report of the four Macon delegates as to the topography of the land, the convention recommended the building of lines from Cincinnati to Knoxville and then via western towns to connect with the two roads already under construction, that from Macon to Forsyth and the Georgia Road which ran from Augusta, its terminal point at the moment undecided. This was a distinct triumph for the Macon delegates as it forestalled the connection of this midwestern line with Augusta and thence to Charleston. Still there was opposition to railroading in Macon, and as late as August, 1836, there was a public meeting at Macon to protest the entrance of the Monroe Rail Road Company—the line from Forsyth—into the corporate limits of the town. The chief objection given was that it would divert too much trade to Forsyth.

However, as a result of the Knoxville Convention, a similar Georgia Rail Road Convention was called to meet in Macon on November 7, 1836. H. G. Lamar was elected chairman of the meeting, and upon advice of A. H. Chappell the convention approved a petition to the State Legislature to extend the charter of several roads and to build a State Road as a main line between the Chattahoochee and Tennessee Rivers. The Legislature at its December session granted these petitions. Delegates from thirty-seven counties had been represented at the Macon Convention, and it is to the Macon delegates to the Knoxville Convention and to this meeting that the state owes the chain of railroads through the center of the state linking the Tennessee Valley area with the seaboard.

The Monroe Rail Road which had continued to be pushed in spite of the depression of 1837 was rapidly nearing completion. In December, 1838, the first passenger car had been placed on this line. A locomotive called the "Ocmulgee" had arrived by boat from Savannah and had made a trial run from Macon as far out as Singer's Hill (about to the present overhead bridge on the Forsyth Road) at a rate of 21 miles an hour. The first real trip on Saturday, December 8th, carried about fifty passengers to Forsyth and back. Passage each way required a few minutes more than an hour. The passenger list included the President, the Directors, and a group of friends, including the municipal and county officers. A. M. D. King was acting President assisted by Zach Harman, D. Sandford, and J. G. Hill as Vice Presidents. A dinner in Forsyth celebrated this first trip with much appropriate

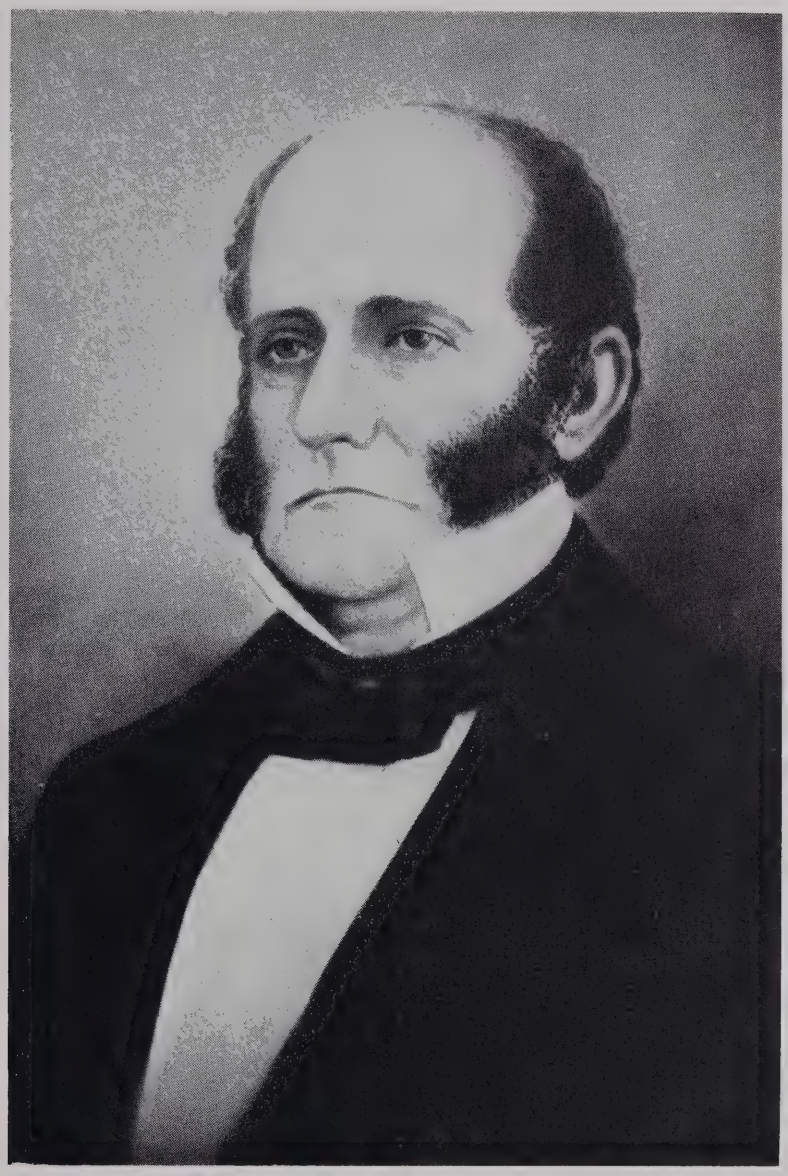
toasting. All was not smooth operation for the line, however, for its enemies upon occasions put blocks of wood on the tracks to cause accidents, and sometimes their plans succeeded. But operation continued, and during 1839 extension of this line from Forsyth to Griffin was carried on at the rate of ½ mile a day. Cars ran over this line for the first time on December 18, 1842.

Work on the Savannah line was progressing more slowly. About two years were occupied with attempts to survey the best possible route to follow. An experimental survey had been made by Colonel Cruger in 1834, and two possible routes had been marked out. One went through the hill country on an airline route, and the other followed rivers and kept near waterways. The latter route was selected and further surveyed beginning September 15, 1835, by L. O. Reynolds, R. W. Ellis, and Virgil Powers. After the survey was completed, swamp fever or malaria constantly plagued the workers. A nationwide depression intervened, and for a time it appeared that the railroad would be carried to Milledgeville instead of to Macon. In 1840 a heavy rainstorm did considerable damage to the roadbed and superstructure, and at this point, Dr. Robert Collins and Elam Alexander of Macon accepted a contract to build the final 50 miles from Oconee to Macon. In the same year after much arguing pro and con, the depot of the railroad was settled upon on the east side of the river. Proponents argued that it would save the railroad company money, speed completion of the work, and that having no crossing into the city would bring money into the treasury from bridge tolls and drayage fees. William W. Gordon, President of the company, did not live to see the culmination of his enterprise. He died on March 20, 1842. Cars began to run over the Savannah to Oconee lap, a distance of 147 miles, in July, 1842.

Two incidents during the finishing of the last section show something of the drama that had accompanied the whole enterprise. On Section 62 a portion of the bank of a deep cut caved in burying four workmen, two of whom were killed. Then even nearer to the city as workmen excavated near the large Indian mound, about four feet below the surface they found a number of Indian relics which were displayed in town by Charles Collins. They included an earthen pot with a capacity of about 8 gallons, a pewter spoon, a translucent stone resembling amber, the skeleton of a child about seven or eight, a piece of plate glass, and a number of similar Indian objects.

The Savannah *Republican* announced on August 8, 1843, "Passengers came through yesterday from Macon for the first time." They had made the trip in about twelve hours.

An elaborate celebration on October 13th marked the completion of the Central Rail Road. Major J. J. Gresham made a welcoming



Elam Alexander

Courtesy Washington Memorial Library.

address to which Dr. Carruthers replied on behalf of the City Council of Savannah and Mr. R. R. Cuyler, President, answered for the Rail Road Company. At two o'clock the guests adjourned to the long brick warehouse at the depot where they enjoyed a barbecue dinner and more speeches, some of which were made by Messrs. Bartow, McAllister, and Fleming of Savannah and by Messrs. A. H. Chappell, E. A. Nisbet, and N. A. Powers of Macon.

The depot of the Central Rail Road was on the site of the general offices of the Bibb Manufacturing Company on Main Street today and is described as "a capacious warehouse together with a convenient passenger house, an engine house, and a small shop for making repairs of machinery." The depot of the Monroe Rail Road was at the intersection of Forsyth and Monroe streets.

To complete the story of railroad history during this period, the year 1845 saw the Central Rail Road stock held by the city of Macon sold at a greatly reduced rate to help relieve the municipal debt, and at the same time a declaration of bankruptcy was issued by the Monroe Railroad and Banking Company. The entire property of the latter company including eighty miles of completed road and the superstructure for the remainder valued at $2,000,000 was sold to Jerry Cowles who was representing a Northern party for $155,000. This added to $50,000 for the redemption of liens on the road brought to the creditors $205,000. Cowles bid on the property to forestall purchase by the Charlestown Railroad which would then have abandoned the section not yet completed, and this company allowed Cowles to bid in the property in the belief that he would be unable to finance the transaction and they would be able to buy it from him at a greatly reduced rate later. When Cowles got the money for payment, another threat to railroad progress in Georgia died.

IV. Participation in National Affairs

The three problems of national import that loomed large in Georgia during the first two decades of Macon's existence were inextricably entangled. They were the problem of Indian relations, that of slavery, and that of a national tariff. Opposition to a protective tariff grew out of the concentration of industry in the state upon cotton growing. Cotton growing on a large scale was based upon the use of slaves, and here the picture became more complex. During Spanish ownership of Florida, negro slaves began to run away into Florida where under Spanish laws they were free. Many of them intermarried with the Indians thus creating a strong bond between the two races. Not only were Georgians disturbed by reports of bloody Indian raids, but they recognized the presence of the Indians as a constant menace to their slave holdings. Also in the minds of abolitionists the attempts to remove the Indians from Southern territory was just one more proof of the inhumanity of the slave holding Southerners.

It is not the province of this brief treatment to attempt to dig too deeply into these problems or to fix blame for events but simply to record the most outstanding of these happenings with as much accuracy as possible.

A—Indian Affairs

1. Removal of the Creeks

Governor Troup who was a violent opponent of the Indians was willing in 1824 to advocate secession if the federal government did not take steps to remove the Creeks living between the Flint and the Chattahoochee rivers. He reminded the President that when Georgia had in 1802 ceded to the United States government all the territory from the Flint to the Mississippi for the sum of $1,250,000, one of the terms was "that the United States shall at their own expense extinguish for use of Georgia, as early as the same can be peaceably done on reasonable terms, the Indian title to all the lands within the state of Georgia." A report of the Select Committee of the House of Representatives appointed to study the question offered a resolution advocating the expediency of procuring cession of all these Indian lands. The Creeks, however, offered stubborn resistance to any proposal for purchase of their lands, and they were receiving much moral support from the Cherokees.

An initial meeting with the chiefs of the Creek nation in December, 1824, at Broken Arrow, the seat of their national council, ended in failure. White commissioners for this meeting were James Meriwether and Duncan G. Campbell. A second conference was called at Indian Springs in February, 1825. Here the lower Creeks led by William McIntosh, a cousin of the Governor who was also a mixed breed Indian chief, ceded to the United States by treaty all the lands within the boundaries of Georgia for $400,000 and an equal area of land in the West. However, in April of the same year, Creeks who were hostile to the treaty appealed to the government at Washington and then condemned McIntosh to death and murdered him. President Monroe had been succeeded by President John Quincy Adams who favored the objecting Creeks. He called a conference in Washington in January, 1826, at which the Creeks ceded the same area with the exception of 300,000 acres which had been ceded at the Indian Springs conference but which were now withdrawn. Terms were to be $200,000 plus a perpetual annuity of $20,000. Governor Troup refused to recognize the Washington treaty as he maintained that the Indian Springs treaty still held. He proceeded to start a survey of the ceded territory in spite of loud protests from the Indians and threat of military force from the Secretary of War, James Barbour. When Troup continued to defy federal authority, Congress recommended a last meeting at the Creek Agency in November, 1827, where a final cession of Creek lands in Georgia was made. Evans reported the amount paid "about twenty-eight thousand dollars,"[11] and the *Telegraph*[12] reported $47,491. This

11. Student's History of Georgia—by Evans.
12. Issue January 14, 1828.

ended the problem of Creek occupancy of Georgia land.

2. Missionaries

The next trouble with the Indians grew out of the continued occupancy of north Georgia by the Cherokees. They had established a sort of nation within a state with a capital city at New Echota. In 1828 the state of Georgia extended its legal jurisdiction over their territory, occasioned according to their own explanation by the discovery of gold in that area with a resultant influx of white adventurers. The state passed a ruling requiring all white men living among the Cherokees to take an oath to support the state constitution. Two missionaries, Samuel Worcester and Eliza Butler, among others, refused to take the oath on the grounds that their signing would acknowledge the jurisdiction of Georgia over the section which was adverse to their opinion. They were tried, convicted, and sentenced to serve 4 years in the penitentiary on September 15, 1831. The others involved were freed on their promise to leave Cherokee territory. Worcester and Butler engaged counsel to carry their case to the Supreme Court. Meanwhile they decided to petition for pardon, and pardon was granted by Governor Lumpkin on January 14, 1833. There was much local criticism of Lumpkin for his action as an indication of his intimidation by the federal government, especially by the citizens who believed that the missionaries were abolitionists whose main objective was not to Christianize the Indians but to stir them up against slave holders.

3. Cherokee Settlement

Occasional acts of outlawry on the part of the Cherokees were constant reminders of the presence of these Indians. After much negotiation, a treaty was signed at New Echota providing for their migration to 7,000,000 acres west of the Mississippi in return for $5,000,000 plus government removal from their homes, subsistence for one year after their arrival, and several additional minor considerations. This treaty was made under the leadership of John Ridge in spite of protracted opposition on the part of one Cherokee faction led by John Ross who was against migration.

4. Florida War

For some time Maconites had been disturbed by reports of isolated instances of raids by marauding Seminoles from Florida. In 1833 the Seminoles had signed a treaty for their removal to the West, and General Schley Thompson had been sent to supervise their removal. The Seminoles maintained that the treaty of Fort Moultrie gave them twenty years to leave. They were led by Osceola, a stubborn half-breed chief whose wife was the daughter of a runaway slave and as such she

was supposed to be sent back to Georgia. In 1835 the Seminoles were given a year to leave, but Osceola retaliated by a surprise uprising in which Wiley Thompson and a number of other whites were brutally murdered. This was followed on December 28th by the massacre of Major Dade's command, and these two incidents precipitated a long struggle known as the Florida War which continued with intermittent fighting until 1843.

In early February, 1836, five companies of Georgia volunteers met in Macon preparatory to going to join the Florida War. They were the Monroe Musketeers under Captain Cureton, about sixty-seven men; the Hancock Blues under Captain Brown, about sixty-three men; the Morgan Guards under Captain Foster, about sixty-one men; the State Fencibles of Putnam under Captain Meriwether, about seventy-six men; and the Macon Volunteers under Captain I. G. Seymour, about one hundred men. They formed themselves into a battalion, choosing Maj. Mark A. Cooper of Putnam for their commander and Dr. Oglesby of Morgan as their surgeon. On Friday, February 5th, they were reviewed by Governor Schley, and on Sunday, February 7th, following an address at the wharf by Gen. A. R. Beall and an answer by Major Cooper, they boarded four boats headed first for Darien and thence to Picolata by steamboat. The Macon Volunteer Band played the "Marseilles Hymn" as they left. Captain Seymour who with three others remained a day later left in a batteau which was overturned a few miles below Macon with the loss of much baggage; they had to proceed by land. Macon citizens had contributed heavily to the support of these volunteers. On February 9th, fifty-six more men were drafted to join those who had already gone, and in late February after the arrival of the first group at Darien on the 13th, more soldiers were ordered to the field including the Macon Independent Horse under Captain Johnson.

On February 18th the battalion reached Picolata and were mustered into the United States Army by Lt. Col. Bankhead at a camp on the St. Johns River nearby. After moving on to Fort Drane, they joined the army of Generals Scott and Clinch and moved to Tampa Bay. En route there was an encounter crossing the Ouithlacoochee in which Pvt. Lewellen of the Macon Volunteers was wounded by a ball that entered just above his knee cap. Two other Maconites had narrow escapes, a ball shooting away part of the cap of Pvt. Dannelly and another going through the coat and vest of E. D. Williams. The Georgia battalion was in front, and the Macon Volunteers served as an advance guard. En route to Tampa Bay about thirty miles farther along, General Scott left Major Cooper's battalion to build a fort and await further orders. In three weeks the men built a two story block-house with a stockade around it which was named Fort Cooper and was called

by them "Post of Honor." While they awaited the return of General Scott or further orders, food gave out. Orders had just been given for the killing of Major Cooper's horse to feed the sick when General Scott returned from Tampa with ample supplies. The Georgia battalion had conducted itself with courage and faithfulness. However, in a letter to the *Messenger* published May 12, 1836, one Macon soldier called the whole affair a "Sham-paign" and said it had ended in "clouds of musquetoes, volleys of curses—the Volunteers disgusted—the Indians out of temper" and expressed the hope for "younger officers" if the government "feels Florida is worth fighting for next year."

In spite of this rather ironic view of the affair, the campaign had been filled with potential danger, and on May 25th when the Macon Volunters and the Monroe Musketeers landed in Macon they were greeted by the firing of a cannon, and the next day they were honored with a testimonial dinner. They came back without the loss of a man except one from sickness and with only three or four wounded. It is somewhat strange that one of the worst casualties was the wounding of James McGraw and a man named Henderson during the firing of the cannon that greeted them on their return. General Robert A. Beall whose death occurred in mid-July of that year might be termed a war casualty as his death resulted from illness contracted in fighting the Indians.

In one other way this war touched Maconites. When Mayor Seymour left at the head of the Macon Volunteers, Jerry Cowles served as Mayor Pro Tem until an election could be called on March 11th at which time Isaac B. Rowland was elected to replace Seymour during his absence.

5. Creek War

Encouraged by the success of the Seminoles, the Creeks had become more daring in their raids along the border of Georgia and Alabama. Settlers in this area flocked into Columbus in increasing numbers seeking protection. On May 12, 1836, report was made of the massacre of thirty-seven white settlers, among them Maj. William B. Flournoy formerly of Putnam County who was on his way to Fort Mitchell to protest Indian depredations. Finally the governors of the two states called out the state militia. The Bibb Cavalry under Capt. E. McCall was called to a rendezvous at Columbus with twenty-two other volunteer companies. The first assignment of this Bibb County group was to serve with the Talbot cavalry as an escort for General Jesup on a trip to look over the Indian camps between Columbus and Tuskegee, Alabama. There was a brief encounter with Indian warriors near the camp of Neah Micco which ended in the death of two Indians and the wounding of several others. The group returned without mishap to

Columbus. They found over 2,000 soldiers now encamped there, and General Winfield Scott who had been in charge of the Florida campaign was in command. Five days after returning to Columbus, the Macon group was detailed to guard the Governor on a trip to Fort Mitchell, and on their return trip they encamped for three days at Camp Starvation, which name they gave the place in the absence of food supplies for two days. In rapid succession, they joined the expedition to Roanoke which arrived at that place after its complete destruction by Indians who had then crossed the river and were molesting citizens in Georgia. They followed the Indians to Concord, Georgia, near the site of an earlier massacre, and pursued them on to the Chickasawhatchee swamp where they were hidden. Strengthened by two companies from Thomas and Decatur counties on July 2nd the group formed a battalion under Col. Beall and marched through the swamp until they ran into the Indians and had a brief skirmish in which one white was killed, seven wounded, and the Indians fled leaving fifteen dead behind. Here at the edge of the swamp the Macon soldiers celebrated the Fourth of July and waited while a group of friendly Indians and four companies again followed the trail of the Indians. Finally when it appeared certain that no further trouble would come in this area, on July 17th the battalion returned to Columbus and was discharged on the 22nd.

Just prior to the discharge General Winfield Scott, who had been in charge of both the Florida War and the Creek campaigns, was recalled to Washington. He passed through Macon on July 10, 1836, and upon arrival in Washington he was court martialed for the failure of the Seminole campaign and the protractedness of the Creek one. The Bibb Cavalry under Captain McCall returned July 25th with no loss from war or disease.

6. Texas Campaign

It is impossible to treat the three military campaigns of the thirties with perfect chronology because of their overlapping. The move for aid to Texas began in early November, 1835, with a public meeting presided over by Levi Eckley. Its stated aim the "expression of feelings relative to the struggle for freedom now beginning in Texas," and enrolling of volunteers who wished to aid Texas was begun. By early December it was reported that about 120 volunteers had gone from Macon to Columbus.

The difficulty between Texas and Mexico was largely an outgrowth of the dictatorship set up by the Mexican Santa Anna who refused to recognize the demand of Texans for admission to the Mexican Union as a separate state. The Texans determined to back up their demand with force and captured the Mexican fortress of Goliad after earlier

defeating a body of Mexican soldiers at Gonzales. This was followed by the capture of Mexican General Cos and his army in December, 1835, whereupon Santa Anna marched against the Texans, captured Fort Alamo after a bombardment of eleven days, and then violated the terms of the Texan surrender. All men left in the garrison were massacred. It was at this point in the struggle that four schooners carrying about 220 volunteers, including those from Macon under the captaincy of Uriah J. Bullock, arrived at Velasco.

An interesting sidelight on the struggle occurred as the Macon company passed through Knoxville, Georgia, on its way to the West. They were presented with a white banner made of silk bearing a lone blue star by Miss Joana E. Troutman of Macon. This was the original of the Lone Star Flag first used by the Macon company and later adopted as the official flag of the state.

This group under the leadership of Colonel William Ward of Macon when they arrived in Texas formed a battalion, a procedure forbidden to them as long as they were within the United States. Their officers were: Major, William A. Ward; Surgeon, William J. Mitchell; Q.M., David I. Holt; A.Q.M., Henderson Cojart; and Captains, W. A. O. Wadsworth, James C. Wynn, and Uriah J. Bullock. This battalion joined the group commanded by Col. J. W. Fannin to form a regiment with Fannin as Colonel and Ward as Lieutenant Colonel. They were stationed at Fort Goliad. Sent to a church at the Mission of Refugio thirty miles away to relieve Captain King. Ward succeeded in frightening away the Mexicans long enough to allow Captain King to leave. However, King and his men were attacked by the Mexicans as they left and were killed, and Ward's battalion, attacked and beaten back into the church by a re-enforced Mexican army, surrendered on the terms that they were to be returned to the United States. Meantime another group advanced upon Fort Goliad and met Colonel Fannin who had anticipated their plan, destroyed the Fort, and was on his way to try to get to General Houston's army. His force, too, was captured, and, in complete violation of the terms of surrender, Santa Anna ordered the entire regiment butchered. On pretext of marching the Americans to ships for removal to the United States on March 27, 1836, the men were advanced into a double line of armed Mexican soldiers and fired upon. Only four of the Georgia group escaped along with eight others of Fannin's command. Macon was reported to have lost seventeen men in Texas. Among the four survivors was a Macon lad of sixteen, Samuel G. Hardaway. He was later reported killed when the Creek Indians attacked the stage on which he was a passenger at Chehaw, Alabama. However, he managed to escape and returned to Macon with firsthand news of the Mexican war.

The war was ended less than one month after the massacre of

Fannin's command. Santa Anna's army was badly defeated, and Santa Anna himself was captured. Ironically, the creator of the symbol of Texan independence that flew over the defeated Santa Anna, Miss Troutman, was rewarded with some of the heavy silverware which had been taken from the Mexican general after his defeat.

B—The Question of Slavery

During these two decades the activity incident to the problem of slavery was largely confined to violent opposition to any move by abolitionists. An event in Virginia, a slave uprising led by Nat Turner, had resulted in the death of a number of white settlers in 1831. Turner had used a natural phenomenon familiarly called the "Blue Sun" as a spur to his people, telling them it was a sign from heaven that they should strike for their freedom. Of the appearance of the "Blue Sun" in Macon, the *Macon Advertiser* of August 16, 1831, says this in part:

"We had a constant series of cloudy weather during the last week. The sun was continually struggling and wading through huge masses of deep blue vapour, which rolled around his solar majesty in fantastic shapes, dimming him of his lustre, and shearing him of his glory. Sometimes partially obscured, his disk would catch the tinge of the cloud, and then apparently staggering through the overloaded atmosphere, his face would look as blue as a midnight reveller returning from a festive carousal. This singular appearance soon attracted the attention of our wonder-loving Maconites, and in a moment our streets and windows were crowded with men, women, and children."

Although the strange occurrence was somewhat satisfactorily explained by scientists of the day as a result of a total eclipse of the sun just as the moon came near the earth, in the face of this and the Nat Turner uprising, the people of Macon were in a state of emotional unrest which made them easy victims of a wild rumor that shook the town on October 2, 1831. About sunset of that day a lone horseman rode into town with news of a slave insurrection in Jones and Baldwin counties. Immediately the Volunteers were posted as a guard for the town and a temporary cavalry company was organized with Dr. Ambrose Baber in command. Reports, by scouts sent out, of quiet among the negroes were interpreted as evidence of deep plotting. George Lunsford rode to Forsyth to alert General Elias Beall of that place to order the counties under his division to arms. Townspeople in Macon brought out unused weapons and prepared to defend their homes. The affair finally blew itself out when the truth of the matter became apparent. Six negroes had had a disturbance among themselves in Jones county in the first place, and there had been a small engagement between some Indian slaves and white traders near Fort Mitchell on the Chattahoochee.

Abolitionist activity continued to plague the South, confining itself no longer to attacks in Northern newspapers, but now filtering into the heart of the slave holding section. Robert A. Beall served as chairman of a public meeting held at the Court House on September 1, 1835, called by the Mayor to consider incendiary moves being made by these abolitionists. In addition to deploring the situation and passing resolutions to encourage the treatment of slavery as a domestic problem, the group decided to obtain laws, if necessary, for the suppression of incendiary materials as they were received at post offices. They urged boycotting of any merchants known to be abolitionists, and asked Council to offer a $1,000 reward for the discovery, apprehension and conviction of individuals engaged in circulating incendiary pamphlets. In a sympathetic move the Macon Volunteers offered a resoution that they were ready at any time to cooperate "in protecting the lives and property of our fellow citizens from the machinations of the enemies of peace and good order." However, Macon citizens did not go to the lengths of some of their neighbors; the citizens of Hillsboro rode a convicted abolitionist out of town on a rail in August, 1836.

In October of 1835 again there was excitement aroused by the discovery of an intended uprising of slaves in a corner where Jones and Monroe counties touch. It was planned for the day of state elections when the men would all be away from home voting, but the plot became known, the leaders were immediately apprehended, and they were punished with no harm done.

Tangled as the problem was with that of treatment of Indians which had drawn much Northern disapproval, slave relations pointed to the ever widening rift between the North and South.

C—National Political Activity

The first presidential election in which the people of Macon displayed particular interest was that of 1832 in which Henry Clay was a candidate on a platform favoring a protective tariff and advocating the rechartering of the United States Bank. Following the election of Andrew Jackson to the Presidency, an Anti-Tariff Convention began in Milledgeville. Some of the delegates disapproved of certain of the proceedings and seceded from the Convention, but the general sentiment of the group was, "He that is for State Rights will support the proceedings of the Convention." The *Messenger,* which was a State Rights newspaper, in reporting Jackson's answer to the Nullification Ordinance passed by South Carolina announced:[13]

"In our columns today will be found a portion of

13. Issue, December 20, 1832.

A Proclamation

by President Jackson to the people of the State of South Carolina 'done' at the Royal City of Washington in the fourth year of his reign, and the 57th, and probably the last, year of American Independence."

This message in short refused to accede to the demands of South Carolina for a withdrawal of the Tariff law. The problem of the tariff, however, became somewhat less urgent in March, 1833, with the passage of Clay's compromise tariff bill. One local aspect of this quarrel over national politics was the division of Bibb votes between the Union and State Rights candidates in the legislative election of 1834 and also in the gubernatorial race of 1835. In each of these elections the Union candidates carried both the county and the state.

Following the inauguration of Martin Van Buren as president in 1836 there was a nationwide financial crash. Partly because of this and partly because of the blame placed upon him for his stand for Slavery Restriction in the Missouri Territory, there was much animosity toward Mr. Van Buren in the South. In fact, there was a special Anti-Van Buren Celebration on the Fourth of July in 1837 with A. H. Campbell as orator. One toast offered by L. W. Phillips shows the spirit of this portion of Macon's citizens: "Martin Van Buren, like his predecessors, may his drafts on all parts of the country be returned to him protested for non-payment." This year the State Rights candidate, George R. Gilmer, was elected Governor.

It was in 1838 that a public meeting instigated by a recommendation of the Grand Jury was held. This recommendation was that the holding of barbecues and the issuing of free drinks as part of electioneering procedures be controlled. Edward D. Tracy was named chairman of the group which resolved to support no individual using such methods and to support no candidate buying or having bought votes.

In 1840 political feeling in Bibb county reached an all-time high. Van Buren was a candidate to succeed himself, and the Anti-Van Buren party in Georgia convened in Milledgeville and nominated William Henry Harrison for President and John Tyler of Virginia for Vice-President. Many Democrats swung over to the Anti-Van Buren party at this time because of the President's announced endorsement of the overthrow of the United States Bank. Just before the adjournment of the Milledgeville Convention, General Elias Beall on behalf of the Bibb county delegates presented a resolution recommending a grand convention in Macon on August 13th to ratify these nominations. Upon the unanimous adoption of Beall's resolution, Tippecanoe clubs sprang up all over the state, and elaborate preparations began to be made for the Macon Convention. (Tippecanoe was the name of the great Indian battle in which Harrison had first won prominence.)

Accordingly on August 12, 1840, delegates began to pour into Macon

from all over the state to the largest gathering ever held in the state up to that time and to a convention that has rarely to this day been equalled in size in Macon. There were 4,205 delegates representing seventy-one counties, but the number in attendance reached about 15,000. The scarcity of railroads offered no hindrance as many of the delegates came 50 to 80 miles in vehicles pulled by horses or mules. Some of these vehicles carried replicas of the unpretentious home of their candidate in the shape of log cabins. A delegation of 300 from Troup and Coweta counties arrived first.

There were 550 Bibb delegates whose three banners were first, a rattlesnake with the motto—"General Harrison—the Rod of Aaron among the Magicians"; second, a portrait of Harrison encircled by a wreath of oak surmounted by crossed flags with the double motto—"The Last Hope of the Republic" and "A Southern Man with Southern Feelings"; and third, a log cabin and an eagle with the double motto—"Harrison and Tyler" and "We Will Teach Palace Slaves to Respect the Log Cabins."

Colonel William B. Parker was Grand Marshal in charge of the assembly of the delegates near the warehouse of Hamilton and Reynolds between 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning of the 13th. The convention was called to order by General Beall, chairman of the Tippecanoe Club of Bibb County, and John M. Berrien was chosen permanent chairman. Rev. George F. Pierce, Methodist minister, offered an opening prayer. (Although Reverend Pierce took no professed political stand, he had a fine pair of carriage horses at his home in Vineville named Tippecanoe and Tyler that to the amusement of his family he called "Tip" and "Ty.")

Mr. Berrien made a brief address; Mr. Preston of South Carolina spoke for two hours; and at last there was a procession leading down Cherry to Bridge, down Bridge to Court House square on Mulberry, up Mulberry to Second and along Second to the warehouse opposite Academy Square where food was arranged on tables slightly short of half a mile in length. More speaking by many orators occupied the afternoon; Macon speakers included Judge Christopher Strong, A. H. Chappell, E. A. Nisbet, Washington Poe, A. S. Wingfield, and S. R. Blake. Adjournment was called on August 14th after the adoption of resolutions opposing Van Buren, endorsing Harrison and Tyler, approving six Georgia representatives in Congress, and urging party members of the Union party to join the State Rights party upon a platform of Popular Rights. Mr. Berrien made the closing address. As follow-up activity by the other side, Col. A. P. Powers with Mr. O'Keefe of Macon spoke at a great Democratic meeting in early September at Indian Springs.

In the election Harrison carried nineteen states and Van Buren

carried seven. A feature of the inauguration in March as far as Georgia was concerned was a freshet accompanied by a terrifying thunder storm. The Ocmulgee reached a higher level than it ever had before. On April 4, 1840, Harrison died and was succeeded by Tyler. A memorial oration to Harrison was delivered by E. A. Nisbet at the Presbyterian Church on April 24th. The only local result of the change of Presidents was a change of Postmasters. Keeland Tyner succeeded Frederick Sims.

Preliminary to the election of 1844, a State Rights Convention was held in Milledgeville on June 2, 1842, at which Henry Clay was named as Convention choice for President. It was after this Convention that the term Whig came to be used for this party. The next year the Whig Party of Georgia held its first convention in Milledgeville nominating George W. Crawford as their candidate for Governor and endorsing John M. Berrien of Macon who had been named convention president as their candidate for National Vice-President. They sent ten delegates to the national Whig convention in Baltimore in May, 1844, with instructions to support Henry Clay and Berrien as party nominees. They were successful in the election of George W. Crawford as Governor and in the nomination of Clay, but Theodore Frelinghuysen of New Jersey became candidate for Vice President.

During 1843 there was a move to secure the nomination of John C. Calhoun instead of Henry Clay. Clay was reported as opposed to the annexation of Texas, the hottest political issue of the approaching campaign. It was here that widespread use of the term Loco-focos came into being. It was a derisive term used by the Whigs—in Georgia for those Democrats who were supporters of Calhoun. The *American Democrat,* a short lived Macon newspaper, was a staunch supporter of Calhoun till his withdrawal from the race.

A Clay Club was organized at the Central Hotel on February 3, 1844, with Washington Poe as President and Henry G. Gross as Secretary. On the other hand, the Democratic Republican Party of Bibb sent out an organizational call on February 22nd urging all who opposed Henry Clay as President, the National Bank, and the Protective Tariff to attend.

On March 17, 1844, Henry Clay came to Macon, arriving from Forsyth by train. He was formally welcomed with an address by Washington Poe made on the Court House steps on the 18th. Then Clay addressed an audience (estimated at about 1800 by his opponents) from the southeast portico of the Court House. Two of his principal topics were the National Bank and the Protective Tariff. He was honored with a ball at night and left the next day for Milledgeville.

The Democrats held a big mass meeting at Macon on August 22nd with delegates from forty to fifty counties in attendance. A procession

formed at the Court House under the direction of Major J. W. Armstrong, Chief Marshal, and proceeded to the stand. Here Col. D. C. Campbell called the meeting to order. Charles J. McDonald was elected President. The annexation of Texas and of Oregon was the principal topic of addresses, and there was much color from the banners supporting Polk.

Later a Macon Loco-foco Club was organized with its "Jawbone Band" of a dozen amateur musicians who enlivened political meetings with their music from instruments principally jawbones and ribs of animals with a few string and brass instruments.

The annexation of Texas now became allied in the minds of many Southerners to that of abolitionists. The abolitionists opposed annexation because of slave holding already being practiced in Texas, and Massachusetts was threatening to dissolve the Union over the question. However, in the election of 1844 the Democratic candidates of James K. Polk and George M. Dallas won. They were proponents of annexation, and they carried Georgia by a majority of 2,049 of the 86,257 votes cast and Bibb county 862 to 706.

V. Visitors of National Importance

A—The Marquis de LaFayette

In spite of the fact that Macon was an infant town which was feeling its way ahead in the nation, it received its share of outstanding visitors during its first twenty years of existence. After almost fifty years of absence the Marquis de LaFayette of France returned to America. During his tour, he landed in Georgia at Savannah on March 19, 1825, where he was met by an impressive delegation headed by Governor Troup. After being entertained and toasted for several days in Savannah, he proceeded to Milledgeville from Augusta upon an invitation to visit the state capital.

The Macon Lodge of Masons No. 24 at the instigation of Dr. Ambrose Baber issued a formal invitation on March 24, 1825, for the General to visit Macon. LaFayette was in complete sympathy with the Masonic organization. Accordingly he arrived in Macon on March 29th accompanied by his son, G. W. Motier de LaFayette, his secretary, and two of the Governor's aides, Col. T. G. Holt and Col. H. G. Lamar. Of his arrival the *Georgia Messenger* gives this picture:

"On March the 30th, at 12 o'clock M., a signal gun announced his approach to Macon, when the ladies and gentlemen proceeded to form lines on Bridge Street, near the ferry. He dismounted from his carriage, and crossed the river, when he was received by the committee appointed for that purpose, and the commissioners of the town. On ascending the bluff, he was welcomed to the town in behalf of the citizens, by James S. Frierson, Esq. . . ."

A procession was then formed, and he was conducted to his quarters at the Macon Hotel at the foot of Mulberry street. As the procession moved, a national salute was fired. Upon arrival at the hotel, he entertained first the ladies, then every citizen who wished to shake hands with him, and finally Dr. Baber and the members of the Lodge that had extended the invitation to him. In a formal address by the Brothers of the Lodge he was praised in expansive terms, the address ending:

"Gratitude must have fled from the breast of man, humanity lose its seat ere the virtuous deeds of the generous, amiable, distinguished and exemplary LaFayette shall be forgotten."

LaFayette in his reply reiterated his loyalty to and support of the "science of Free Masonry" and said in closing, "That you and your Lodge may be blessed with prosperity and harmony, that the rising and improving town of Macon may continue in its successful advancement, that Masonry may flourish, and the citizens enjoy all the social and intellectual blessings it so eminently inculcates, I pray you, sir, to accept as my most sincere and ardent wish."

Dinner was served at the hotel by the proprietor, George Stovall, at which Edward D. Tracy offered this toast:

"Our illustrious guest: The friend of our country, of liberty, and of man."

LaFayette replied, "The town of Macon: May its prosperity continue to be one of the strongest arguments in favor of republican institutions."

After a stay of about two and a half hours, General LaFayette left accompanied by a number of citizens. He stopped overnight at the Creek Agency on the Flint river, about half way between Macon and Columbus.

B—*Captain Basil Hall Stops By*

Captain Basil Hall, who was the son of the noted English geologist and physicist Sir James Hall, and who had served twenty-six years in the British Navy, passed through Macon on March 27, 1828, on his way to New Orleans. He came to Macon from an unnamed village as his journal records on March 25th, "We took dinner at a village on the right bank of the Oconee, a dirty stream which joins the Oakmulgee after which the joint river takes the name of Altamaha."[14]

Then he speaks of travelling 31 miles and says that on the morning of the twenty-seventh having only 15 miles to go, he started out at sunrise expecting to breakfast in Macon, but the roads were, according to him, in wretched shape so he was delayed. He gives this report:

"On the 27th of March, we reached the town of Macon at eleven o'clock, well-nigh famished for want of our breakfast. Macon appeared

14. Travels in North America, Vol. II, by Capt. Basil Hall.

to be in the South exactly such a town as Utica or Syracuse in the North, or any other of those recently erected towns in the western parts of the state of New York. It had not the bustle of Rochester, it is true, but it resembled that singular village not a little in its juvenile character, and might have been taken for one of its suburbs."

The latter part of his description of Macon drew the anger of the editor of the *Telegraph* when he reported having seen an account of it in 1829. Bartlett says, "He appears rather billious when he speaks of our little town."

This is the portion of his report in which he says that Macon had "not yet worked its way to the maps and roadbooks," that it was built with the hope that it would serve as a river depot for inland trade with the seacoast but that with the hopes of river transportation on the Ocmulgee waning, "the rage for settling there had given place to newer fashions; other situations had been preferred, and, this city, which in the opinion of its founders was to have been one of the greatest in all the South, it was now feared would soon vanish altogether."

Captain Hall mentions the "Pride of India" trees as he called the chinaberry trees and speaks of the tree stumps which had not yet been grubbed out of the cleared land.

Leaving Macon on March 29th, he proceeded to the Creek Agency on the Flint River. At the conclusion of his discussion of Macon he speaks of going through Dublin that day, but the map which appears in his book of sketches traces his route directly *from* Dublin to Macon and then on to Columbus. Captain Hall carried with him an instrument called a Camera Lucida that he used in making the pen and ink drawings with which he illustrated his travels. No illustration of Macon is included although there is what he calls a portrait of a typical family of interior Georgia and a sketch of Columbus. Evidently he was less a prophet than he believed as the town whose disappearance he promised and which he ignored in his sketches has thrived, while a coastal village, Riceborough, which he illustrates has remained a small and relatively unimportant rural settlement.

C—*Visit of Mrs. Anne Royall*

On April 14, 1830, Macon's pride, which had been somewhat wounded by the treatment it had received in Captain Hall's book, was salved by the visit of Mrs. Anne Royall. Mrs. Royall, whose husband had been a well known figure in Washington and who had contributed heavily to patriotic causes, had been ignored by his family after his death, her marriage to him had been questioned, and she had been left without means of support. Now she was making her impress on the world by travelling and writing accounts of her travels in what

she called "The Black Books." Arriving in a huff over the lack of cordiality with which she had been received in Milledgeville, this arrogant individual called Macon "the very Pride of the South" and "the Rosebud of all little cities." In reporting her visit the *Messenger* called her the "lioness of the day" and added that "the cauldron of her wrath was boiling under her seven times heated furnace of indignation against the people of Savannah and Milledgeville."

To her lodgings in Washington Hall came calling some of the town's most prominent gentlemen led by the Intendant, Capt. W. J. Dannelly. In her next book,[15] she gives these descriptions of some of the men who called:

"The Intendant, Capt. W. J. Dannelly, is a stout, portly figure, quite a young man, with a round, fair, full, handsome face and a fine black eye; he is noble and commanding in his appearance.

"The Dr. (Myron Bartlett) is a tall, slender man with an oval thin face and mild black eyes, his countenance is steady and dignified, and his manners gentle and charming.

"John T. Rowland, Esq. is a young, tall, handsome figure, with a thin, (they are so overrun with business here, they are all thin) narrow face, with an intelligent countenance and sprightly, elegant manners."

Of the town she wrote, "Macon is a large flourishing town, and has drained all the capital and refinement not only from Milledgeville, but a great deal from other parts of the state, and is treading fast on the heels of Savannah. It is inhabited by gentlemen—emphatically, men of liberality, taste and talents—the opposite to Milledgeville in everything."

Mrs. Royall included an account of her attempt to visit the Indian Mound which was unsuccessful because of the rain. She did, however, see Fort Hawkins and she met Solomon Humphreys, a free negro of the period who operated a business near the Fort. She described him in part as "a young looking, stout man, rather fat, but not corpulent: he was dressed in a linen round-about, and with equal plainness throughout. His clothes, soiled from his application to his business, with which he is said to be thoroughly acquainted."

This, she said, should be an object lesson to the distributors of tracts. These people were the abolitionists who were distributing anti-slavery material throughout the South.

Of Newtown and the Fort, she wrote, "The Fort is going to decay, being some time abandoned. I was much astonished to find it (the settlement around it) inhabited by a few poor straggling women and children."

15. Mrs. Royall's Southern Tour or Second Series of The Black Book by Mrs. Anne Royall.

In conclusion she said, "We left Macon, the most flourishing, wealthy and polite town to the age of it in the United States."

Long after her departure she maintained a friendship and a somewhat peppery correspondence with Editor Myron Bartlett, a friendship which she finally broke off with a public announcement because she felt that he had neglected to push the sale of her newest book.

D—*John Howard Payne*

Five years later on August 8, 1835, John Howard Payne, celebrated author of "Home Sweet Home" arrived in Macon. Of his arrival he wrote in a letter to his sister, "Here I am, all alone, in a strange place —Macon in Georgia—a good sized, handsomely built town, nearly twelve years old, and with 4,000 inhabitants. I arrived about eleven last night. I have no acquaintances here yet, so, for the sake of company, will brush up my recollection of some of my adventures."

His visit to Macon seems to have been peaceful enough, but after leaving Macon he became interested in a study of the Indian removal problem. This was then a hot question because a move was already under way to secure the cession of lands held by the Cherokees. After visiting many of the picturesque spots in Cherokee held territory, Payne arrived at Red Clay in September, 1835. Payne, by his own explanation, had earlier visited John Ross, the opponent of Cherokee migration, to obtain copies of some Cherokee documents and had then accompanied Ross to Red Clay where the Cherokee deputation led by John Ridge agreed to terms of removal for the Cherokees. Ross prepared to go to Washington to protest the settlement. Meantime on November 7, 1835, Payne and Ross were arrested by the Georgia Guard and imprisoned in a small outhouse on Joseph Vann's plantation, Spring Place. He received rather brutal treatment and was told of no formal charges against him until finally he was told by Absalom Bishop, head of the Guards, to "git out of Georgia." It is probable that his arrest was due in part to his association with Ross and in part to a criticism of the Georgia Guards found by that group among the papers taken from him. He had said in an article, supposedly prepared for newspaper circulation, that they "looked like banditti." At any rate, Payne vowed never to set foot in Georgia again. The governor of Tennessee protested the arrests which had taken place in Tennessee, and the affair did not cool off until Governor Schley of Georgia apologized.

E—*Visit of Mirabeau Lamar*

Shortly after the Anti-Van Buren celebration of the Fourth of July in 1837, General Mirabeau Bounaparte Lamar, author and founder of the *Columbus Enquirer,* paid a visit to Macon. He was at the time

Vice President of the Republic of Texas, later destined to become its third President. His visit was the occasion of much excitement in a town that had contributed so heavily to the war for Texan independence. The Macon Volunteers under Captain Seymour with their band and the Bibb Cavalry under Captain Eckley paraded out to meet him. He was formally welcomed by Captain Eckley on behalf of the military. Then he was taken to the Methodist Church where he was greeted by the citizens through William S. C. Reid. Following his address of reply, the group adjourned to Washington Hall for a banquet. Lamar returned for a second visit to Macon in July, 1844, after he had served as President of Texas and when annexation was a major election issue. It was such contacts as this that made the cause of Texas annexation such a personal one to the people of Georgia.

The final visitor of note during this period was Henry Clay whose visit has been described in connection with his candidacy for President in 1844.

VI Religious Life of the Period

The commissioners of Macon when the town was laid out set aside those four acres enclosed by Sixth, Seventh, Cherry, and Poplar streets for places of worship or meeting houses. However, when Rev. Lot Jones visited Macon in February, 1825, he found no ministers and no form of public worship. He was travelling under the auspices of "The Protestant Episcopal Society for the General Advancement of Christ in the State of Georgia." He preached to the citizens in the Court House, and they urged his return to the city after he completed his assignment.

Just one month later on March 5, 1825, a group of people meeting in the Macon Lodge F. and A. M., No. 5 on Cotton Avenue just around the corner from Mulberry passed resolutions establishing the first real church in town, a Protestant Episcopal Church to be called Christ Church. Rev. Lot Jones was named Rector and Christopher B. Strong and Dr. Ambrose Baber were appointed Wardens. First services in this church, as they were in the early stages of all the denominations, were held in the Court House. A lot on the corner of Poplar and First had been sold to an individual with the understanding that payment should be made on demand by the church. This individual had left Macon and when the church asked payment, he offered to return the property. A law suit to recover the money was begun. Meantime the present lot on Walnut street between Second and Third was bought for $700 and the first building in the form of a Roman cross was completed for first services on Sexagesima Sunday in 1834.

To go back a bit, the Legislature of 1826 on December 26th appro-

priated three additional lots to those set aside at first for churches at the same time that they passed "An Act to incorporate the Presbyterian, Episcopalian, and Baptist Churches in the town of Macon and County of Bibb." They also passed an act "To authorize the Commissioners appointed to lay off the town of Macon to lay off and set apart by said Commissioners sufficient ground for the use of the Methodist Episcopal Church in said town."

So, although Christ Church was the first formally organized denomination in Macon, the Methodists have a "first" to their credit, too, as they completed the first church building in Macon. Organized in 1826, the Methodists received 2 acres of land just beyond the limits of First street on Mulberry from the commissioners by the act of the Legislature quoted above. In 1827, as an outgrowth of a non-denominational revival led by Rev. Joseph Stiles, a Presbyterian minister, initial efforts were made to secure funds for the building of the church. The ladies helped by collecting subscriptions in money, lumber, and nails. Three mechanics—Mr. Gardner, Alexander Richards, and Elliot Crews—devoted all the time they could spare to the building of the church which was completed in 1828. It had an inside gallery on three sides for negro worshippers.

The Presbyterian Church was organized in 1826 on June 8th by Rev. Benjamin Gildersleeve under what was then the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia. Rev. Joseph Stiles who was an acting evangelist in the region and who had been preaching in Macon on occasions for some time was present. This denomination used the Macon Academy Building for services for several years, and Reverend Stiles was the supply preacher. Later under Rev. James C. Patterson who became minister in 1828 a small wooden church on Fourth street between Poplar and Plum was finished in 1829. Their second and larger church on Fourth between Mulberry and Walnut was finished in 1837.

1826 marked the beginning of the fourth Protestant denomination when the Baptist Constitution was organized by three ministers—Rev. John M. Gray, Rev. C. A. Sharpe, and Rev. Johnathan Neal—in that year. They, too, used the Court House until 1829 when at the invitation of the Presbyterian group they began to use that church. In 1832 they built a brick church on Second and Mulberry, but their use of this church was quite short as they sold it shortly after completion because of debt, and another was soon completed on the corner of Cherry and Sixth streets. In 1839 this building was sold upon the completion of another larger one located on First street near Cotton Avenue.

The year 1835 was marked by a revival of religion extending to all denominations. It began with services in the Methodist Church on June 28th. Rev. John Howard was assisted by Reverend Campbell of

the Baptist Church and ministers from the other churches as well. Services continued into July, and it was reported that the Methodist Church received 150 converts and the other churches added large numbers of members.

The history of this period cannot close without describing the beginning of the Catholic Church in Macon. Until 1841 only occasional Catholic services had been held by visiting priests in the residences of the few Catholic families in the town. In that year Rev. Father James Graham came to the town to become the priest of the Catholic congregation. The building of the Monroe Railroad had brought in a number of Irish Catholics who, after that work was completed, had remained to become citizens of the town. Father Graham bought from Elam Alexander the Presbyterian Church building on Fourth street near Plum which Alexander had bought from them. This building was refitted and used until much beyond the first two decades when the Catholics bought a second Presbyterian Church on Fourth between Mulberry and Walnut.

The harmony among the denominations during this period was singular. The Sunday Schools held summer outings together, and in the *Telegraph* of June 20, 1840, specific mention is made of the "Sabbath Schools" and their expected participation in the Fourth of July celebration under Washington Poe as general superintendent.

The keynote of feeling seems best displayed by the visit on May 2, 1830, of the Catholic Right Reverend Bishop England of Charleston who was on his way home from New Orleans. He spoke from the Presbyterian Church, and in reporting his visit, the newspaper stated: "Though the Bishop found few amongst us who were brought up in the forms of his own church, he found many who could hear him with pleasure and listen to him without prejudice."

VII Entertainment During the First Two Decades

Probably the first real entertainment of the infant town was the celebration of the 47th anniversary of the nation's independence in 1823. It was a joint celebration by the residents of Newtown and those of Macon. The Declaration of Independence was read by John P. Booth, and an oration honoring the heroes of '76 was made by Charles J. McDonald at the Fort because of the absence of public buildings in Macon. Then at the tavern of Bullock and Wells on the Newtown side of the river, an address was made on behalf of the children by Richard T. Marks, a thirteen-year-old. Later the group crossed the river by ferry for a barbecue dinner served in a grove at the intersection of Fifth and Mulberry streets. The festivities closed at sunset with the firing of an old four pounder which had been left behind at the abandonment of Fort Hawkins.

This gun had been the prize in a skirmish between the boys of Macon and the boys of Fort Hawkins on the night before. The Macon boys had taken the gun and plenty of ammunition from the Fort, and the Fort Hawkins boys had crossed to get it back. However, Tiger Jenkins, the colorful outlaw leader of a shanty settlement that had moved from the limits of the new town to the south commons and called itself Tigertown, failed to provide the re-enforcements the Fort Hawkins lads had expected, so the gun remained on the Macon side of the river for the firing. It was reported that Tiger Jenkins was more interested in the prospect of the approaching barbecue on the Macon side of the river than he was in helping the Fort Hawkins boys. These Independence Day celebrations were held annually and followed largely the same pattern.

Anniversaries were favorite occasions for celebration. On January 8, 1827, there was a celebration marking the "Anniversary of the glorious Battle of New Orleans" where "every mark of respect and gratitude was exhibited in honor of the immortal Jackson, the gallant defender of the 'Beauty and booty' of his country." This event drew special interest, for it was just at this time that announcement was made of the total amount of compensation to be paid by the British Government for slaves, tobacco, etc., carried off by the British officers subsequent to the Treaty of Ghent amounting to $1,200,000 of which Georgia was to get $480,000.

Each year in April there were celebrations commemorating the anniversary of the founding of the Macon Volunteers with public speaking at noon and a ball at night.

George Washington's Hundredth Birthday was celebrated on February 22, 1832, with a morning program at the Methodist Church where his "Farewell Address' was read by H. Marks and an oration delivered by Dr. R. McGoldric. A ball at night ended that celebration.

Not all entertainment was so vigorous. Excursion trips on the river were popular, especially honeymoon trips. Mrs. Hermione Ross Walker in her memoirs gives this description of such a trip:

"The bride and groom would embark here at the wharf and float leisurely down the river, their boat propelled by poles in the hands of strong negro slaves. This was a slow but delightful trip through swamps and primeval forests where millions of birds mingled their music with the sound of the rippling waters to form an orchestral accompaniment to the fine voices of the boatmen. No one was in a hurry, and a trip to Darien on the coast meant a trip of a week, and more than that coming back against the current. But there was plenty of room on the deck of the barge for dancing, and on moonlight nights the parties given by the captain were delightful affairs. The screech owl and the whip-poor-will could be heard calling to their

mates and the rippling waters made a musical background for all other sounds of night, even the cry of a panther, so much like the wail of a little child, added to the weird enchantment of such a trip."

Christmas Eve, 1829, marked the holding of a Christmas Gala or ball. The new Court House, "the pride and ornament of our village", was the scene of what was reported to be by far the largest party of the kind ever held in Macon. Directors of the Gala were John T. Lamar, Keeland Tyner, Bennet S. Griffin, Murdoch Chisholm, John L. Jones, and Myron Bartlett; and tickets were $5.00. The tables were decorated with flowers, fruits, and pyramids of cake, syllabub, jellies, and sweetmeats. Also there was "roast turkey, ham, and chicken which with tea and toast and coffee and biscuit completed the course." In describing the party, the *Telegraph* stated:

"The Assembly Room is a beautiful four square hall, and the largest probably in the country. We observed six cotillions on the floor at the time; with plenty of room between the sets and outside for spectators. It is a plain unfurnished hall, though, and devoid of ornament, which perhaps was the better; the rich dresses and the richer charms of the ladies appearing to more advantage by the contrast. The best music within a hundred miles of the place was procured."

The ladies of Macon held the first Ladies Fair in this part of the state at the Court House on March 10 and 11, 1830. The proceeds were $800, and two-thirds of this amount was appropriated for the purchase of a town clock. The first Cotton Fair took place on December 1, 1830, in front of the Court House. Three prizes were offered. A silver tankard valued at $100 went to Mrs. Penelope Brown whose cotton sold at 13 cents in the auction that followed. Dr. James Thweatt of Monroe County received a silver goblet valued at $50, and his cotton brought 12½ cents. Third prize, a silver vase worth $30, went to Mr. Anthony Cozart whose cotton brought 13¼ cents. Two years later the Cotton Fair was enlarged when the first fair of the Georgia Agricultural Society was held in Macon on December 20, 1832, and prizes were offered not only for cotton but for domestic manufactures and vegetable products as well as for livestock.

The town had quite early in its existence provided for the appearance of many types of entertainers with an ordinance passed by the commissioners of 1824 which placed taxes of $10 on showmen and jugglers, $20 on collectors of wax figures, $10 on large animals exhibited, $5 on small animals, and $3 on fowls. However, no mention is made on the showing of Indians, and this seems to have been one form of entertainment enjoyed during the period. In May, 1830, a group of ten Creek Indians travelling northward stopped in Macon to give an exhibition of the customs and amusements of their tribe. Among the scenes they presented were the Buffalo Dance, a Bird

Dance, a Spirit Dance, and an Old Man's Bear Hunt. Then in early 1831 a group of forty Choctaw Indians gave an exhibition of their game called Ball Play.

The appearance of Siamese twins in Macon was advertised in April, 1834. Also in 1834 the young ladies of the Macon Academy celebrated the First of May in Academy Grove. A queen was crowned in a ceremony accompanied by the scattering of roses.

On two occasions, at least, bear fighting was tried in Macon and both times ended somewhat disastrously. In 1827 a man's leg was mangled, and in 1835 a worse tragedy was averted when spectators watching a bear fight overpowered a bear after it had knocked down and badly mangled the son of John P. Evans. The child finally recovered, but each occasion was the instigation of movements to prevent this sport.

Signor Blitz, a noted magician, made his appearance in town in March, 1827, and shortly afterward the family of Diavolo Antonio performed gymnastic exercises publicly. However, more polished forms of amusement were popular, too, such as the voice and piano concert of Mrs. and Miss Keppell in 1837 and the formation of a Debating Society in 1841. R. S. Lanier, father of the poet, was chairman of the organization meeting of this group held at the Court House, and Thomas W. Collins was the originator of the idea.

Horse racing as a sport was seen in Macon for the first time in April, 1834. The races were run over the Central Course, now Central City Park, and lasted five days with a sweepstake purse for the best two in three. In 1836 the Macon Jockey Club Races offered purses on three successive days of $200, $300, and $400.

Beginning with Camp Newcomb on May 8, 1832, the military installations gathered often near Macon for encampments which always enlivened the town, particularly for the young ladies. Camp Newcomb was located about a mile below the city by the Volunteers and the Georgia Guards of Milledgeville and the Monroe Musketeers. The second encampment was made in May, 1834, on the hill where Wesleyan was later built, and this hill began to be called Encampment Hill. The Macon Volunteers under Captain Newcomb were hosts to the Georgia Guards under Captain Cuthbert and the Washington Guards under Captain Schley. In 1838 while the Bibb Cavalry and the Macon Volunteers under Captains Eckley and Seymour respectively were camped at Encampment Hill for three days, the young ladies from Mrs. Ladd's school presented a flag to the Volunteers. Other encampments included one in 1844 when four Savannah companies joined the three Macon ones at Camp Oglethorpe. The ladies entertained the camp with a picnic.

The Fantasticals held each year by the young men of the town in

connection with Wesleyan's Commencement were quite colorful. The young men in costume rode horseback up to the college hill and around the college. A humorous description in dialect of this parade appears in a series of letters originally written for the columns of a Georgia country newspaper in 1843 in a chapter entitled "Examinations at the Female College":[16]

"Thar was Turks and Chinese, Arabs, Niggers, Hottentots, Ingins, and Tartars. Some had faces as big as a cow, painted and fixed off all sorts of fashion; one feller was ridin on the back of his grand-mammy, another feller had a nose made out of a powder horn; one chap was ridin a big goose; all of 'em had weepons of all kinds and all shapes; some of 'em on hosses had everlastin grate long swords as much as they could tote, and one feller had cowcumbers, simblins, gourds, potaters, roastin-ears, pepper-pods, and every other kind of garden truck you could think of, all strung round him. They was marchin right up to the College."

The history of the theater in Macon closely parallels other forms of entertainment in the young town. In June, 1832, Sol Smith bought a lot on Second street and built a temporary theater, a wooden structure measuring 35 to 75 feet. Here at the Macon Theatre he presented shows, the first of which was "The Soldier's Daughter" given on June 12, 1832. Later shows included "She Stoops to Conquer" and "Spectre Bridegroom." This theater seems to have operated for some years as in June, 1836, advertisement was made of the performance of "Therese, The Orphan of Geneva" at the theater. In 1837 there is a brief mention in the newspaper of a new coffee house and theatre with Mr. Hart as manager and Mr. A. Adams, actor.[17]

In 1838 the town received a new theater to which there was some violent opposition. It was the old Baptist Church which had been moved from its original location on the corner of Sixth and Cherry streets to a new location on Third between Walnut and Mulberry. This had been done by E. E. Brown who had inherited the property from his brothers, A. D. and Israel F. Brown who were the contractors of the new Baptist Church and had taken the building as partial payment for the new one. Although the building had been painted, the pews were used for seats; and opposition was due in part to the nature of the building and in part to a general opposition to theatricals. However, the business was a profitable one as the first performance brought in $500 from a house capable of seating only 600.

These were typical forms of entertainment enjoyed by a people a century ago who could take time out from their serious engagement in the creation of a town out of a wilderness.

16. Major Jone's Courtship—by W. T. Thompson.
17. Messenger, October 5, 1837.

VIII Interesting Sidelights

Although the town of Macon was founded some nineteen years after the nearby town of Milledgeville, there was a rivalry between the two that was marked during these years. Macon was always alert to the possibility of removal of the state capital from Milledgeville to Macon. As early as 1827 the move was being urged by Maconites because of the commercial advantages of the town. One suggestion was that the Penitentiary, the Arsenal, and other public buildings remain in Milledgeville and that a new State House be built in Macon which would cost little more than the badly needed repairs of the old one. Again in 1831 the move was being agitated, and a public meeting was held to prepare a petition to the Legislature asking for removal. However, the Legislature after debate decided to appropriate $20,000 to enlarge and repair the Milledgeville State House instead.

Two tragedies involving prominent Macon individuals made deep impressions upon the town during these decades. The first of these was caused by a terrific storm on March 1, 1833, after which the citizens were distressed to learn that the son of John C. Johnson with his horse had been killed by a falling tree. But they were deeply shocked when the news came that the Eastern stage on its way in from Savannah and unaware of the storm was washed below the ford by the swift waters of Walnut Creek, and one of the passengers was drowned. He was Charles William Washington, a prominent merchant of the town.

The second calamity was also a death by drowning—that of Major Oliver Hillhouse Prince and his wife, formerly of Macon. Major Prince, who had been one of the founders of Macon and an outstanding figure in every civic enterprise of its early days, was a lawyer. He had left Macon in 1832 to edit the *Georgia Journal* and in 1835 had retired to Athens. In May, 1837, he had left Athens to go to Boston where he supervised the printing of a Digest of the Laws of Georgia. Now on October 9, 1837, as he was returning by the steamboat "Home", he was lost when the boat was grounded off the coast of North Carolina during a storm and all but twenty of the ninety passengers were swept from the small life boats by the high seas. A memorial to Major Prince and his wife stands in Rose Hill Cemetery.

During 1836 and 1837 there was heated debate in Macon about the invention of a machine alleged to be a Perpetual Motion Machine. Invented by Dr. L. Stringfellow, it was small enough to be contained within an 18 inch frame. It was exhibited throughout the area and even as far away as South Carolina. Finally the machine was exposed as a hoax by W. C. Houghton who found that upon close examination, it had an inside part that required winding every four hours.

Also in 1837 there was an interesting trial in Macon, that of a slave named Sally belonging to James Goddard on charges of attempted poisoning of Mrs. Goddard. C. B. Cole was prosecuting attorney, and Washington Poe was counsel for defense. At first the lack of evidence was a disturbing factor, but finally a small supply of a white powder was found concealed in a rat hole in her jail cell and was identified by Dr. T. Loomis as arsenic. She was found guilty.

Two scarce commodities, salt and ice, made the news at times during these years. After a shortage of salt in 1835, a boatload of 2,000 bushels of salt was sold at auction during a week in February bringing 60 to 65 cents a bushel. As early as 1832 report of a boatload of ice landed by the boat "Zuleika" at Mr. John T. Lamar's ice house was made. Then in 1838 the steamer "Excel" brought 100 tons to be deposited in a new ice house owned by James Lewis, and promise was made of a regular supply of ice.

During the winter of 1838 while a Mr. Adams was running his dogs in a wooded area at the foot of the hill where Wesleyan was later built, he noticed smoke coming out of the ground near Washington Spring. Upon investigation he found a "Runaway's Den" with its entrance neatly hidden under a pile of pine straw. A trap door opened into a room about 6 feet square which had been ceiled with plank and showed evidence of previous use. The room was stocked with meal, bacon, corn, potatoes, and firewood. It was believed that two people ran from the hideout, but only one, a woman who had escaped in Carolina about a year before, was captured.

In the thirties of the nineteenth century the culture of silk was an industry that was being advocated. For the seven years previous to 1837, the United States had imported silk valued at more than fifty million dollars. The first domestic silk in the United States had been produced in Georgia, and there were groves of mulberry trees in Milledgeville and also near Eatonton. There is only one indication that the people of Macon ever entertained any idea of silk culture. On April 29, 1842, a fire destroyed a two-story cocoonery belonging to James Wakeman with about "a million silk worms nearly ready to wind up."[18]

1842 was also a year that began with local political dissatisfaction. The charter of the city required the holding of an election for Mayor, aldermen, and marshal on the Saturday preceding the first Monday in January. In 1842 this made the election fall on New Year's Day. Just after the polls closed a small group of disgruntled men, angry because unpaid taxes kept them from voting, stormed in, attacked the election managers, and broke open the ballot boxes destroying the ballots. The leader of the group temporarily escaped but was appre-

18. Telegraph, May 3, 1842.

hended several weeks later. On the eve of trial, the leader, allowed to go to the home of a friend in custody of a Bailiff, escaped—this time for good. Two of the others involved were sentenced to two years for the offense, and there was much criticism because the reward offered for the apprehension of the leader was soon withdrawn.

Some of the problems puzzling doctors today were in the news a century ago. For example, this note appeared in the *Messenger* for May 19, 1842:

"Effectual Cure for Cancer: Make a strong decoction of red oak bark. When cold, add an equal quantity of vinegar. Add to these a sufficient quantity of corn meal to make a poultice of proper consistency and apply it to the cancer. In a few weeks the cure will be effected."

In 1843 the town of Penfield in Greene County suffered a calamity that was later to affect Macon. This was the burning of the "brick edifice of the Mercer Institute" on January 25th. Most of the furniture was saved, but the building was a total loss since the policy had lapsed four days earlier. This is the college which some thirty years later was moved to Macon.

IX Conclusion of the Period

The years 1844 and 1845 were distressing ones to the young town. In July because of heavy indebtedness occurring primarily from the city's investments in railroads with dividends held up because of delay in completion of the Central Railroad, Mayor James A. Nisbet declared the city bankrupt. By selling the Central stock at a loss and exercising srict economy, the debt gradually began to be reduced in spite of a continued decline in the price of cotton which reached a low of 2½ to 4 cents a pound.

On the eighth of June, 1845, Macon with the nation was shocked and saddened by the death of Andrew Jackson. A public meeting was held on the 21st of June with James A. Nisbet as chairman to arrange an appropriate ceremony honoring the late President. A procession of mourning, the solemn tolling of bells, and a eulogy by David C. Campbell marked the ceremony held several days later.

Relations with Mexico were again becoming strained because of the annexation of Texas. In September, 1845, the Macon Volunteers unanimously adopted a resolution offering their services to the government in case a declaration of war should be made by Mexico.

Thus the first two decades, so packed with action, with near tragedy, and with drama, came to a close with the threat of war again imminent.

LIST OF TOWN COMISSIONERS AND OF STATE LEGISLATORS

(By Years)

	COMMISSIONERS	LEGISLATORS
1824	Oliver H. Prince	Dr. S. M. Ingersoll, Senator
	David S. Booth, Intendant	Oliver H. Prince, Representative
	Samuel Wood	
	Charles J. Jenkins	
	Seth Ward	
1825	James H. Rogers, Intendant	Timothy Matthews,, Senator
	Thomas G. Bates, Secretary	Harrison Smith, Representative
	Elezar McCall	
	Alexander McGreggor	
	William Moore	
1826	Edward Tracy, Intendant	Timothy Matthews, Senator
	Josiah Freeman, Secretary	John S. Childers, Representative
	E. W. Wright	
	W. J. Dannelly	
	Robert Birdson	
	John Loving	
1827	Washington Poe, Intendant	Dr. Ambrose Baber, Senator
	John T. Lamar	Henry G. Lamar Representative
	William J. Dannelly	
	Robert Birdson	
	N. W. Wells	
1828	Robert Birdson, Intendant	W. B. Rodgers, Senator
	John Corbitt	H. G. Lamar, Representative
	Marmaduke J. Slade	
	John T. Lamar	
	John S. Childers	
1829	Joseph Washburn, Intendant	Luke Ross, Senator
	William J. Dannelly	William J. Dannelly, Representative
	Isaac B. Rowland	
	David Ralston	
1830	W. J. Dannelly, Intendant	Luke, Ross, Senator
	Isaac B. Rowland	Chas. J. McDonald, Representative
	Thomas G. Bates	
	J. S. Childers	
	Alexander Meriwether	
1831	Isaac B. Rowland, Intendant	Dr. Ambrose Baber, Senator
	J. I. Lamar	Tarply Holt, Representative
	R. Turner	
	T. G. Bates	
	A. Darragh	
1832	Levi Eckley, Intendant	
	Isaac B. Rowland	
	David Flanders	
	Isaac G. Seymour	
	Jeremiah Smith	

Chapter IV

THE GOLDEN AGE OF PROGRESS

1845 - 1860

The period 1845-1860 marked a golden era of American progress unparalleled in the history of our country up to that time. It is true that the Panic of 1837 was still exerting its influence from an economic point of view at the beginning of the period, but an era of great prosperity was opening. The discovery of immense deposits of gold in California; the extension of the wheat fields into the mid-west; the great increase of the products in Northern mills and factories; the growing fleet of our merchant marine; and the prosperous raising of cotton by the plantation owners of the South were all signs of rapidly increasing wealth. The railroad mileage of the country up to the beginning of this period was less than 6,000 miles, but during the next ten years, 16,500 miles of new track were laid.[1]

During this period Macon also enjoyed the fruits of progress and prosperity. Though Macon's population was to grow from 4,189 in 1845 to nearly 10,000 in 1859, though her industry was destined to quadruple itself, though she was to become the railroad center of Georgia and one of the leaders in the South, though her markets were to handle more cotton than any other inland city of the state, there were no real indications of such prosperity as the year 1845 made its appearance. An economic depression, the aftermath of the Panic of 1837, was making itself felt in the lives of nearly all of Macon's citizens. Cotton, which was Georgia's principal product of trade, continued to decline in price, and although the crop of 1845 was the largest in the history of the country, amounting to 1,394,503 bales, its value reached a low in January of 2½ to 4 cents per pound.[2] Even at that price, there was very little demand, and a report of the Macon Cotton Market showed 35,665 bales on hand at the beginning of the year and commented that the market was extremely dull.[3] Many of the Southern cotton growers and merchants blamed the low price of cotton on the Tariff Act of 1842 which was passed by the Whigs during Tyler's

1. Muzzey, The American People.
2. Butler, Historical Record of Macon.
3. Georgia Telegraph, 1845.

presidency.[4] Under this tariff, the duties on goods imported from foreign countries were so high that imports virtually ceased, thus eliminating one of the main sources of supply for southern cotton, and other raw products. This not only disturbed the balance of trade but caused heavy speculation.

One of the first official acts of the city at the beginning of the year 1845 was the election of a slate of city officials. James A. Nisbet, who was unopposed, was re-elected mayor. His entire aldermanic slate which included Henry G. Ross, Charles Collins, M. E. Rylander, Edwin Graves, William B. Watts, Elijah Bond, Isaac Holmes, and James Denton, was also elected.[5]

This election represented a victory for the Whigs over the Democrats. From 1845 to 1850, most of the city elections were hotly contested between the Democrats and Whigs. From 1850 to 1855, political rivalry was between the Democrats, better known as "States Righters" in the South, and the "Know Nothings", who succeeded the Whigs. From 1855 to 1860, local elections were between the Democrats, still calling themselves "States Righters" and the American Party as the "Know Nothing" group had begun to be called. During this period, most city elections were won by the Whigs, "Know Nothings", and the American Party groups while the Democratic Party generally prevailed in the county elections.

Even at this early date, the city fathers were making definite plans which were eventually to make Macon one of the most beautiful cities in the Southland. One of the first official acts of the new City Council was the appropriation of a sum of $300 to be expended in planting and boxing suitable trees and flowers in the streets of Macon.[6]

During this period of deflation and economic depression was the announcement, at the beginning of the year 1845, that the state debt amounted to more than $1,500,000.[7] The entire annual revenue of Bibb County at this time amounted to only $8,613.52, but even at that low figure, it was the fourth highest in the state, being exceeded only by Chatham with $25,070.39; Richmond with $13,878.23; and Muscogee with $9,918.37.[8]

With an abundance of both manufactured articles and raw produce, Macon was fast becoming a great shopping center even though the price of commodities was unbelievably low. The Macon Price List as of 14 January 1845 disclosed current prices as follow: "Sugar, 7 to 9 cents per pound; salt, 62 cents per bushel; coffee, 7 to 10 cents a pound; bacon, 4 to 5 cents a pound; beef, 4 to 5 cents a pound; butter, 15 cents a pound; chickens, 10 cents per head; corn, 40 cents per

4. Bassett, A Short History of the U. S.
5. Records, Clerk, City of Macon thru the courtesy of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier.
6. Minutes of City Council, January 17, 1845.
7. Butler, Historical Record of Macon.
8. Georgia Telegraph, 1845.

bushel; grits, 50 cents per bushel; eggs, 6 cents a dozen; lard, 6 cents a pound; meal, 40 cents per bushel; pork, 3 cents a pound; turkeys, 50 cents per head; veal, 7 cents a pound; wines, $1.50 per gallon; whisky, 30 cents per gallon; rum, 35 cents per gallon; gin, 35 cents per gallon; brandy, 75 cents per gallon; shoes, 75 cents to 90 cents a pair."[9]

The practice of making and passing counterfeit money was one of the most acute financial problems of this period and many farmers and merchants suffered financial loss from this cause. Professional crooks and swindlers posing as traveling merchants were generally blamed for a great majority of this fraudulent manipulation. Typical of the many notices and warnings appearing in the current publications of this period was the following from the *Macon Messenger,* March, 1845: "We are informed that a spurious coin has recently been put in circulation purporting to be American Eagles and Half Eagles, value of ten and five dollars. A villian who passed through Houston and Twiggs Counties a few days since succeeded in putting off several of them. He is described as being about 25 years old, fair complexion, dark hair reaching to his shoulders, about five feet 9 inches high"; and, from the *Georgia Telegraph,* May, 1845: "We have been shown a spurious $100 bill on the South-Western Ry. Bank,—so well executed, that the most cautious may be liable to have it imposed upon them as a genuine note. The vignette at the top is a locomotive engine with a train of cars, the letter 'C' on each side. On the right hand border is the head of Franklin, and on the left a Roman head, with the figures 100 above and below the head. The bill is signed James Rose, President, J. G. Holmes, Cashier. These signatures are engraved and are 'fac similes' and made payable to John C. Calhoune, the same Calhoun spelt with a final 'e'. We learn that the bank has never issued bills of this denomination with such a plate. The vignette on the genuine bill is a ship under full sail with a view of the city of Charleston in the perspective, the figures 100 on each side, and on each border. The borders are ornamented with the coat of arms of the states of North Carolina, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Kentucky. The paper of the spurious bills is equally as good as the genuine, and the engraving and filling up, unusually well executed."

Macon was shocked during the month of January by the news of one of the most bloody murders ever perpetrated upon one of her citizens. This murder occurred in Baltimore and aroused considerable interest for several weeks. It appears that Paul Roux, young Macon businessman, who was a gunsmith and also in the hardware business, was on his way to New York, and had arrived in Baltimore on the same evening during which he was murdered. He became friendly with a man named Henry McCurry, who had been a guest for several

9. Georgia Telegraph, 1845.

weeks at the hotel where Roux obtained lodging. The hotel was crowded and McCurry offered to share his room with Roux. They both retired at the same time, and Roux indicated that he would leave the next day on the early morning train of cars for Philadelphia. The next morning, McCurry came down to the bar and stated that Roux had left the hotel sometime before. When the maid servant entered the room later on during the morning, Roux was found in the bed with his throat cut from ear to ear, and the skull of his right temple completely battered in with the back of an axe, leaving the brains scattered over the pillow and the bed saturated with blood.[10] Roux was identified by a certificate found showing membership in the Odd Fellows Lodge of Macon. He was buried in Baltimore by 620 Odd Fellows, and every respect was paid him by them and the citizens of Baltimore.[11] McCurry was later arrested in New York. The watch, clothing, and other valuables of Roux were found in his possession. He had taken passage for England, and was arrested two hours before the ship was scheduled to sail. He attempted to cut his own throat but was returned safely to Baltimore for trial.[12]

Maconites were extremely interested in political developments during 1845 involving the Texas and Oregon questions following the close election of James K. Polk of Tennessee, the Democratic candidate, over Henry Clay, of Kentucky, the presidential choice of the Whigs.

Polk had openly advocated "the reoccupation of Oregon and the reannexation of Texas." The slogan "fifty-four forty or fight" with reference to the Oregon question had been successfully used by the Democrats to arouse popular sentiment in favor of expansion. Southerners, in general, and Texans, in particular, had been equally as ardent in their demands for the annexation of Texas to the Union.

One of the first acts of Congress, following the election, was the consideration of the Texas question, and in January, 1845, Texas was annexed by a joint resolution of the houses. This method, requiring only a majority vote in each house, was preferred to annexation by treaty, which required a two-thirds majority in the Senate. The vote was very close, passing the House by a 120-98 margin and getting by the Senate by a scant 27-25 count. Georgia's representatives voted in the affirmative.

In announcing this important event, the *Macon Republic* of March 5, 1845, stated: "We have just time to announce to our readers the pleasing intelligence of the passage in full Senate of the Texas Resolutions with Mr. Walker's amendment leaving it discretionary with the president to open negotiations with Texas. Merrick, of Maryland,

10. Georgia Telegraph, January, 1845.
11-12. Baltimore Patriot, February, 1845

Henderson, of Mississippi, and Johnson, of Louisiana, are the three Whig Senators to whom the country is indebted for the settlement of this great national question."

The resolution, as passed, provided that Texas might become a state when her constitution was accepted by Congress; that four additional states might with her consent be formed out of her territory; that boundary disputes should be settled by future negotiations between the United States and any other foreign power who made objections; that Texas should assume her own debt and surrender her land and water defenses; that the principle of the Missouri compromise should be extended to the Texas territory; and that the president would have authority to complete annexation by negotiating with Mexico or by an agreement with Texas, as he saw fit.

This resolution was offered to Texas none too soon for leaders of the territory were considering an offer for a joint British and French guarantee of Texas integrity with further arbitration with Mexico relative to boundary disputes. However, the resolution passed by Congress and not England's offer was accepted by the Texans, and on December 29, 1845, Texas was admitted to the Union.[13] News of the admission of this most westerly southern state was received with great enthusiasm in Macon for many members of prominent local families had migrated to the "lone star" state, and further, the admission of another state below the Mason and Dixon line was considered a great moral victory for the South.

Adding interest to the Texas question for Maconites was the visit during February, 1845, of General Mirabeau B. Lamar, ex-president of Texas. General Lamar stopped at the Market House and Mayor Nisbet tendered him the use of the city hall in order to receive visitors. The *Georgia Telegraph* of February 4, 1845 adds: "Much curiosity exists to see the veteran, Lamar. His indomitable courage has long been the admiration of Texas and the southern part of our country—indeed in every place where his feats at San Jacinto and other battle fields are known."[14]

On April 23rd, 1845, the Macon Volunteers celebrated their twentieth anniversary. The troops participated in a colorful dress parade with Governor William H. Crawford in the reviewing stand. An address was delivered by General William G. Smith, and for being recognized as the best marksman in the company, a gold medal was presented to Keeland Tyner.[15]

Macon citizens were saddened by news of the death of Andrew Jackson at the Hermitage in Nashville, Tennessee on the 8th of June. On the 21st of June, a public meeting of leading citizens was held at

13. Bassett, A Short History of the United States.
14. Georgia Telegraph, February, 1845.
15. Georgia Telegraph and Republic, April, 1845.

the Court House to formulate preliminary plans for appropriate exercises to be held honoring the memory of this esteemed southern leader. A number of speeches and addresses were delivered eulogizing "Old Hickory", as Jackson had been affectionately nick-named by his troops, and appropriate resolutions were adopted. A committee of twenty-seven was named to make arrangements for the occasion, and on the 15th of July, an elaborate ceremony was held.[16]

The *Telegraph and Republic*, July 22, 1845, stated: "The funeral ceremonies in this city on Tuesday last in honor of General Jackson were full of interest and solemnities, and must have made a deep impression upon the minds of the large assemblage present on that date. Never before, if we except the Mass Meetings of 1840 and 1844, has there ever been so large a meeting held on any other occasion in this city."

Describing the event in detail, the *Macon Messenger*, July, 1845, adds: "Macon, in honoring the memory of General Jackson, has honored herself. The day was ushered in by firing minute guns and ringing the bells of the different churches. By 8 A.M., the principal streets were crowded with the inhabitants of the city and neighboring counties. At 9:00 A.M., the different Volunteer Companies of the city with the Odd Fellows and Masonic Society, and a large concourse of citizens assembled on Third Street from which the procession was to take up the line of march.

"The line was formed by Major J. W. Armstrong and his aides, G. M. Logan, John J. Jones, and B. Fort, Esquire, and marched from thence up Mulberry and Second streets to Poplar, and up Poplar to the new fire-proof warehouse of Mr. J. Cowles in the following order: following the band of music came, first, the military escort consisting of the Macon Volunteers, the Bibb Cavalry, and Floyd Rifles, with their flags appropriately draped in mourning; next, the Generals of Division and Brigade, with their respective staffs; the Colonel and his staff; following the military came the orator and the officiating Clergy; the Clergy generally; an urn enveloped in a canopy of black crepe, carried on a bier drawn by 4 horses, attended by 8 pall bearers in scarfs; a horse, led by two grooms properly caparisoned; soldiers who served under General Jackson; the Mayor and Council of the City; Judges of Superior and Inferior Courts; Masonic Lodges; Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and citizens, generally.

"The warehouse and speaker's stand had been previously decorated with all the emblems of public mourning. Upon the arrival of the procession and citizens inside, after an appropriate and excellent ode from the Ladies and Gentlemen who had so generously and politely formed a choir for the occasion, the Rev. Dr. Pierce of the Methodist Episco-

16. Georgia Telegraph and Republic, June, 1845.

pal Church offered a solemn and beautiful impressive prayer. The orator of the day, Colonel D. C. Campbell, then rose and pronounced an Oration which was well worthy of the theme and the occasion. The Address occupied about an hour and a half in its delivery. At its conclusion, the audience was dismissed with a benediction from the clergyman who opened the ceremonies, and the different military companies with the Societies and citizens generally retired.

"We cannot omit to mention in connection with the impressive scenes which the city presented on that day, particularly, the beautiful arranged mourning arch and waving festoons that spanned the street from the store of George M. Logan, Esquire to the new fire-proof building on the opposite side of the street."

On July 2nd, announcement was made that General William G. Smith had been appointed Postmaster, replacing Keeland Tyner, removed. During this month, a new post office law also went into operation establishing new rates and discontinuing franking privileges to many persons who had previously enjoyed them. The main provisions of this new law were that single letters, i.e., letters weighing half an ounce or less, could be sent 300 miles for five cents and greater distances for ten cents. Newspapers could be sent by the publishers thirty miles from the place of publication free of postage and two cents a sheet for greater distances.[17]

The 4th of July, as was the custom every year, was a day of much celebration in 1845. The annual exercises of the Sabbath Schools were held in the Presbyterian Church. At 7:00 A.M., the various Sabbath Schools met at their respective churches where they organized and marched to Academy Square. From there, they proceeded at 8:30 A.M. to the Presbyterian Church under the direction of J. L. Saulsbury, Marshal for the occasion. Exercises commenced at 9:00 A.M. The order of procession was 1—Methodist; 2—Baptist; and 3—Presbyterians. The program consisted of an organ recital, music by the choir, prayer by the Rev. Mr. Kendrick, singing by the children, an address by the Rev. Mr. Branham, and the benediction by the Rev. Mr. Stephens.[18]

The official celebration by the city consisted, first, of a Federal Salute at sunrise; then a procession of march from in front of the Floyd House at 10:30 and a parade to the Presbyterian Church. There a program was presented which consisted of a voluntary on the organ; prayer; music by the choir; Declaration of Independence read by Samuel M. Strong; group music by the audience; and an oration by S. R. Blake. A community dinner was served on the tables at the Floyd

17. Georgia Telegraph and Republic, July, 1845.
18. Georgia Messenger, July, 1845.

House at 3:00 P.M., priced at $1.00 per plate, with many of the leading citizens attending.[19]

The summer of 1845 was one of the hottest and dryest seasons that the citizens of Macon had ever experienced. The thermometer registered 100 degrees or more time after time during July and August. A July edition of the Georgia Telegraph and Republic commented: "The citizens of this place have endured a degree of heat that is unparalleled in the memory of the oldest inhabitants. Lately, we have had a refreshing shower occasionally but we fear they came too late and not in sufficient quantity to benefit the forward corn. The oat crop has been a failure, except in a few favored spots visited by partial showers, and the corn has suffered very materially. It is feared it will be scarce and high priced in a considerable tract of counties. Cotton looks, as it always does when the price is low, very well. It has not suffered from scarcely any of the causes which affect it injuriously when the price is high. But its most critical period is yet to come and if the latter part of summer or beginning of fall should be rainy, the crop may be cut off yet. However, if the price does not advance, we think that farmers may feel easy about lice, rust, rot, and every other disaster."

An August edition of the publication added: "The land is literally parched with heat and thirst, and the drought having passed an ordinary extent of time, seems truly alarming. Common day complacency and fashionable murmurings are giving way to more expressive silence."

During September the Central Railroad and Banking Company, whose lines extended from Macon to Savannah giving it the historic fame of being the longest railroad in the world built and owned by one company, inaugurated a new service for the convenience of its passengers. A new type of car was put into operation and a gala party of Maconites participated in the inaugural trip of this car. A summary of the event as given in the Georgia Telegraph and Republic, Sept. 16, 1845 follows: "On Wednesday evening last, a numerous company of the ladies and gentlemen of this city assembled at the Central Railroad Depot to respond to a kind invitation upon the part of the president of the company inviting them to a pleasant excursion to Gordon. The city was ably represented by both sexes—the grave citizens clad in 'russet brown',—witching beauty in all the joyousness of gay, laughing, rosy seventeen, and the beau trimmed like a yonker prancing to his love were all there to contribute their full quota to the pleasure of the occasion.

"At a little past 'two of the clock', away we went with the rush of the wind in the lead of a powerful locomotive that cut the air with the speed of a 'feathered mercury'. In a few minutes the party was

19. Georgia Messenger, July, 1845.

safe in Gordon, and invited to partake of the refreshments prepared for the occasion, — fruits of the season, iced lemonade occasionally sparkled with a 'few drops of sorrow's medicine', and at intervals the heart stirring explosions of champagne guns whiled away an agreeable hour.

"The new Washington', in which the party was transported, speaks well for the mechanisms employed in its construction. It reflects great credit upon the skill, taste, and enterprise of its builders. Even upon the great routes in the northern states where all the appliances of art and material are at hand, we have met with few cars more commodious or elegantly furnished."

There were continuous rumors of war with Mexico throughout the year. Almost every issue of the press carried some news of military preparation or activity of American and Mexican troops on the Texas border. Typical of these dispatches is the following one carried in the Telegraph and Republic, September 9, 1845: "Advice has been received from Vera Cruz that the Mexican Congress has authorized the President of Mexico to declare war against the United States, and that General Hurera has in consequence ordered 15,000 men to the Rio Grande and issued orders for raising a much larger force."

Maconites were among the first in the nation to offer their services in the event of war. At a meeting of the Macon Volunteers on Saturday, September 6, 1845, resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted offering their services to the Government in case of a declara- of war by Mexico. In conformance with the resolution, Captain Isaac Holmes, the commanding officer, addressed the Secretary of War tendering his command for any service that might be assigned should it be required. The Volunteers were the first military group to be organized in Macon, having been established April 23, 1825. They served a campaign in Florida under General Scott. They were regarded as being one of the best drilled military corps in the entire country.[20]

The results of a census taken during the year were announced in October which showed the population of Macon as being 4,189. The white population was tabulated at 2,442; slaves 1,709; and free persons of color twenty-nine. This did not include Vineville nor a part of East Macon not embraced in the corporate limits of the city. The population of Bibb County totaled 10,558 consisting of 5,957 whites; 4,562 slaves; and thirty-nine free persons of color. It is interesting to note that Houston County with 14,741 and Monroe County with 16,266 were both more densely populated than Bibb County in 1845. Georgia's population was shown to be 774,325 consisting of 458,169 free white persons and 316,156 blacks. This represented an increase in seven years of 112,152.[21]

20. Georgia Telegraph and Republic, September, 1845.
21. Georgia Telegraph and Republic, October, 1845.

A large number of citizens of Bibb County attended the first meeting of the Bibb County Agricultural Society which was organized in 1845. The meeting was held at the Court House and was called by Colonel D. C. Campbell. Colonel John Lamar was elected chairman and Samuel R. Blake was named secretary. The purpose of the meeting was to consider and formulate plans for improving agriculture in Georgia. A committee composed of Thomas King, Asa Earnest, Samuel Strong, J. H. R. Washington, and James Dean was appointed to draft a constitution. Another committee which was instructed to prepare and publish an address to the planters of Georgia consisted of Colonel Campbell, E. A. Nisbet, T. G. Holt, J. D. Winn, and James Smith.[22]

Despite the effects of the general depression, considerable building activity took place during the year and numerous city improvements were made. Several fire-proof brick stores were erected on Cherry Street and Cotton Avenue in the two blocks which had been razed by fire some two years previous. Strong & Wood constructed two fire-proof stores during the year. John J. Gresham built two business



The Ralph Small Home, which was built by Mr. Skelton Napier around 1846.
Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones.

22. Georgia Telegraph, January, 1845.

houses during the same period. Jerry Cowles had the credit of constructing the first fire-proof warehouse in Macon during the year. He converted the spacious and substantial building on Poplar Street which had originally been built as a banking house for the Monroe Railroad into what was considered the most modern and one of the largest warehouses in the state.[23] His building occupied a one-acre lot and could accommodate 6,000 bales of cotton. This warehouse was later rebuilt and renovated and eventually became our present City Hall.

Macon enjoyed a wide variety of interests during this period in the field of recreation and amusements ranging all the way from gambling and cock-fighting to the legitimate stage. Open advertisements for betting were often carried in the newspapers, the following being a typical example: "A Bet — One Thousand Dollars is offered, even, that if George W. Crawford is run by the Whig Party for Governor, he will get beat. The money is ready when any Whig chooses to cover it. No race, — no bet. If preferred, a forfeit will be put up. Inquire at Telegraph Office."[24] Cock-fighting was a favorite activity of this period. The following is a typical notice appearing in a local publication: "An individual of this county proposes fighting a maine of 21 cocks — more or less if desirable, for $250 or $500 in February or March next with anyone in the state, and meet his antagonist half way. Any person desirous of accepting this challenge, will please address P.Q.C., Macon Post Office."[25]

Several outstanding theatrical presentations were offered to Macon's followers of the stage during the year. The season was ushered in on January 15th with the opening of the Macon Theater. John S. Potter and his select and talented company inaugurated the season by presenting Bulwer's popular play "The Lady of Lyons."[26] This company came to Macon direct from Augusta and Savannah where they had been enthusiastically received. During February, a series of plays was presented by Mr. George Chapman among which were the celebrated tragedy of "Venice Preserved", "The Fall of the Alamo", "The Death of Davy Crockett", and others.[27] The Republic, February, 1845, stated: "The Macon Theater is now in successful operation under the management of Mr. George Chapman, a gentleman intimately conversant with his profession and favorably known throughout the country as a conductor of efficient theatrical corps. His list of actors is headed by a Mr. Proctor who stood high in repute in Boston, Philadelphia, and other Northern cities as an actor of first rate talent." Other attractions during the year included the Infant Sisters, Elizabeth and Emma Kilmiste, ages 4 and 6, who portrayed difficult character roles besides

23. Georgia Messenger, June, 1845.
24. Georgia Telegraph and Republic, July, 1845.
25. Georgia Telegraph, January, 1845.
26. The Republic, January, 1845.
27. The Republic, February, 1845.

offering pleasing songs and elegant dances; and the celebrated Scotch piper, Watty Ferguson, in Highland costume, with his kilts and bagpipe.

A Macon man, Eugenius A. Nisbet, was elected on December 19th by the State Legislature to the Supreme Court of Georgia in the original organization of that high tribunal. The other two justices elected were Joseph Henry Lumpkin, Oglethorpe; and Hiram Warner of Meriwether.[28]

1846

Politics and business ushered in the year 1846 for Macon residents. On the 7th of January, Isaac Holmes was elected Mayor without opposition. His slate of Councilmen was composed of James B. Ayres, James Denton, J. A. Nisbet, James Dean, T. P. Stubbs, Elijah Bond, O. G. Sparks, and Charles Collins.[29] County officers elected included William H. McCarthy, sheriff; Henry G. Ross, clerk of the Superior Court; John E. Jeffers, clerk of the Inferior Court; Richard Bassett, tax collector; and William C. Kenseor, receiver of tax returns.[30]

During the first week in January, the new railroad company for which Jerry Cowles had purchased the old Monroe Road,[31] was organized under an amended charter and re-named the Macon and Western Railroad Company. Daniel Tyler was elected president and two Macon men, Nathan C. Munroe and Charles Day, were placed on the Board of Directors. The new company immediately started the work of rebuilding and completing the road to Atlanta. The new management voted to pay in $260,000 immediately and provided for subsequent funds to be paid on the first of each month until the road was completed.[32] Heavy new iron rails were laid over the whole road. New locomotives, passenger and freight cars, and heavy machinery were purchased. At the end of eight months, the new road was completed. Cars commenced regular daily trips to Atlanta on August 18, 1846. The total cost of completing the road was $627,091, which amount included all of the improvements then in use on the great northern routes. Macon was now connected with the Cherokee country. At the close of the business season in May, 1847, the statistics showed that the freight on goods sold in Macon and shipped beyond Atlanta, from October 1, 1846, to May 1, 1847, amounted to more than one-half as much as the freight on goods from New York, Savannah, and Charleston by the river and the Central Railroad.[33]

On the 8th of January, 1846, the thirty-first anniversary of the

28. Butler, Historical Record of Macon.
29. City Clerk, Mrs. Viola Ross Napier.
30. Georgia Messenger, January, 1846.
31. See Chapter III.
32. Georgia Telegraph, January, 1846.
33. Butler, Historical Record of Macon.

Battle of New Orleans was celebrated in Macon with parades and appropriate ceremonies. The Macon Volunteers under Captain Holmes; the Floyd Rifles under Captain Ross; and the Bibb Cavalry under Captain Rylander paraded and went through the military evolutions and salutes, which are usual on these occasions.[34]

Macon enjoyed many gay and festive social affairs during the winter of 1846, most of these taking place at Washington Hall under the management of Mott and Sparks and later Mr. Sterling Lanier. The Floyd House under B. S. Newcomb and Thomas H. Brown, and the Oregon House, under M. Bartlett, were also popular centers of entertainment.[35]

The newly organized Supreme Court of Georgia convened in Macon during February, 1846. This was the second session of this judiciary body, it having met in Savannah during the month of January. The following Macon men were admitted to the bar of this Court: E. D. Tracy, John Rutherford, S. R. Blake, T. P. Stubbs, R. K. Hines, S. T. Bailey, J. J. Gresham, William W. Wiggins, and John H. Goodrich.[36]

Macon was shocked and saddened on March 8, 1846 to learn of the sudden death of one of its pioneer physicians, Dr. Ambrose Baber. The circumstances accompanying his death were quite ironical. Dr. Baber died while attending a patient, Leroy P. Jarrel. Shortly before his visit, Baber had written a prescription for Jarrel which was filled at Payne's Drug Store. The druggist, believing he had detected an error in the prescription, filled it but warned the patient to consult his physician before taking it. Jarrel mentioned this to Dr. Baber as soon as he arrived but the Doctor, confident that he had copied it correctly from the Formulary, poured a dose into a tumbler and drank it without hesitation. At once, he remarked "there is not enough sugar in it" and requested a lump. Before it could be handed to him, Dr. Baber made a feeble effort to loosen his tie and open his vest, but died before he could do so. Physicians rushed to his aid but it was too late. The prescription as written by Dr. Baber was in accordance with Ellis' Formulary, published under the sanction of the Medical College of Philadelphia. A typographical error was responsible for this most unfortunate incident.[37]

Dr. Baber was born in Buckingham County, Virginia, and received his education at White Hall Institute in Virginia. He gained valuable medical training in the office of a Dr. Nelson in Norfolk, Virginia, and during the War of 1812, he further increased his knowledge by serving in the medical section of the United States Army. At the conclusion of the War, he attended the Medical College of Philadelphia

34. Georgia Telegraph, January, 1846.
35. Georgia Telegraph, January, 1846.
36. Georgia Telegraph, January, 1846.
37. Georgia Historical Quarterly, September, 1938, Article by R. B. Flanders.

where he studied from 1815-17 and served in the hospitals of that city.[38] A weakened physical condition led Dr. Baber to seek a more agreeable climate and Georgia was his choice. He first settled in Laurens County and resided in Dublin. Shortly afterwards, he moved to Pulaski County, opening his office in Hartford, now extinct, which was a frontier settlement facing the Indians, where he built a gratifying practice in a short time. In 1817, Dr. Baber accepted an invitation to join the medical staff of General Andrew Jackson in the expedition against the Indians during the Seminole War. He accompanied the expedition into Florida and served as surgeon for the United States troops.

After the close of the war, Dr. Baber returned to his practice, but about two years later he moved to Marion, a village in Twiggs County. It was during the period of his Marion residence that Dr. Baber made the acquaintance of Oliver Hillhouse Prince, lawyer and United States Senator — a meeting that perhaps influenced him in deciding upon Macon as a permanent home. Prince invited him to accompany the commission which had been appointed to lay out the new town of Macon, and Dr. Baber was instrumental in providing medical advice concerning the selection of a healthful location.[39] The commission discharged its duty in 1822, and in 1823, Dr. Baber made his permanent residence in Macon.[40]

Shortly after the founding of Macon, Dr. Baber founded and organized Macon Lodge No. 32, now No. 5, and the Constantine Chapter No. 4, Masonic Order, and became the Worshipful Master of the Lodge and the High Priest of the Chapter. His services were further recognized in 1831 when he was elected to the post of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia.[41]

In 1825, Dr. Baber extended the greetings of the Masonic Order to General Lafayette during his visit to Macon. Throughout his life, Dr. Baber remained a staunch and active member of the Masonic Fraternity. A Lodge organized at White Plains, Georgia was named in his honor, and a fine portrait of him may be seen today in the Lodge Room in Macon.[42]

The professional ability of Dr. Baber was recognized throughout the state. In 1825, he was appointed to the Board of Examiners for the Medical Department of the University of Georgia, and ten years later to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

Religion and theology were of deep interest to Dr. Baber and in 1823 he took the first steps that led to the founding of Christ Episco-

38. Collection of Family Papers in possession of grand-daughter of Dr. Baber, Miss Birde Baber-Blackshear, Macon, Georgia.
39. Baber MSS.
40. Ambrose Baber, R. B. Flanders, Georgia Historical Quarterly, September, 1938.
41. Records, Masonic Lodge, Macon, Georgia.
42. Masonic Papers, in possession of Miss Birdie Baber-Blackshear, Macon, Georgia.

pal Church.[43] The Communion Cup and Bowl in a niche to the right of the altar were given by Dr. Baber to the Church. Before being brought here they were lost in a shipwreck in the Mediterranean Sea and recovered by a diver.[44]

Soon after moving to Macon, Dr. Baber became involved in a dispute which culminated in a challenge to a duel and the death of his adversary. The cause of this duel is not clear but apparently resulted from a misunderstanding relative to remarks made upon the field of honor in the spring of 1825 when the Doctor acted for a Mr. Beall in his duel with Dr. Isaac Mitchell. The brother of the latter, Thomas D. Mitchell, a member of the Bar of the Southern Circuit of Georgia, made a public denunciation of Dr. Baber. All efforts to make a peaceful settlement failed. The formal challenge was made in November, 1825, accepted by Mitchell, and fought the next March across the Savannah River in South Carolina.[45]

Dr. Baber was active in politics and on five occasions he was elected State Senator from Bibb County. He introduced and sponsored many bills designed to benefit and improve Bibb County. He was an ardent supporter of education and in 1831 was placed upon the Committee on Public Education and Free Schools. In this capacity, he attempted to formulate a system of academic and free schools for Georgia, but politics barred his plans.[46]

In business and civic affairs, Dr. Baber had shown a versatile interest. He worked toward the organization of a railroad connecting Macon with other cities. He was interested in banking and in the late thirties became president of the Insurance Bank of Columbus which had its headquarters in Macon. Through his efforts, the Macon Lyceum and Library Society was founded and he became its first president.[47]

In 1829, Dr. Baber married Mary Elizabeth Sweet, of Savannah, and during the same year he built a handsome residence on Walnut Street. The house occupied about four of the present lots on the corner of Walnut and Second Streets, and has now been converted into a hospital known as "The Clinic."[48]

In 1841, he was appointed by President Harrison as Charge D' Affaires to Sardinia where he served his country with honor and distinction for several years.[49] He returned to Georgia in 1844 where he resumed his practice of medicine and continued his place of leadership among the citizens of Macon.

Saint Patrick's day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on March 17, 1846 by the Friendly Sons of Ireland's patron saint, As was the an-

43. Macon Telegraph Centennial Edition, November 25, 1926.
44. The Macon Guide, J. W. Burke Co., 1939.
45. Nottingham, op cit 72.
46. Baber MSS.
47. Ambrose Baber, R. B. Flanders, Georgia Historical Quarterly, September, 1938.
48. Baber MSS.
49. Butler, Historical Record of Macon.

nual custom at this time, a procession formed at Washington Hall, the Irish brethren being dressed in full regalia. The parade, preceded by a band of musicians playing Irish melodies, marched to the Council Chamber at City Hall, where an address was delivered by General William G. Smith. The Georgia Messenger, March 19, 1846 states: "A most sumptuous dinner was served at Washington Hall which did credit to the host, Mr. Mott, as a liberal purveyor of provend. A great many good things were said and some spicy sentiments delivered. Thirteen regular toasts and dozens of informal ones were given. The regular toasts included: 1. The day we celebrate; 2. Ireland; 3. President of the United States; 4. Governor of Georgia; 5. Repeal Association of the United States; 6. Patriots of the American Revolution; 7. Memory of Andrew Jackson; 8. Irish patriots of '98; 9. The Star Spangled Banner; 10. Daniel O'Connell; 11. Irishmen in America; 12. Irish fair; and 13. To the City of Macon."

A daily line of stages was established to Columbus during the month of April.[50]

The first meeting of the new County Board of Health was held in the Council Chamber at City Hall on April 30, 1846. Present were Doctors R. H. Randolph, J. L. Jones, R. A. L. Atkinson, Martin Hall, Thomas L. Ross, George Vigal, James M. Green, and J. S. M. Baldwin. Dr. Randolph was named chairman, and the organization was completed and by-laws adopted.[51]

The much anticipated war between the United States and Mexico developed into a reality during the month of May. Early in 1846, General Zachary Taylor, "Old Rough and Ready" as he was affectionately termed, was ordered to march southward from Corpus Christi to occupy the east bank of the Rio Grande. The spark necessary to kindle the flame of war was not long delayed. Taylor's advance from the Nueces River and his approach to the Rio Grande, which President Polk considered an act of defense, amounted to an act of aggression from the Mexican viewpoint.[52] The Mexicans, therefore, "defended" themselves by entering the disputed area. General Ampudia, the Mexican commander at Matamoras, on the south bank of the Rio Grande, sent a force across the river, which on April 24th surrounded a reconnoitering party of Americans, killing and capturing them all. On May 9th, news of this attack reached Washington. Two days later, the President sent a message to Congress stating that "war exists, and, notwithstanding all of our efforts to avoid it, exists by the acts of Mexico, herself." Congress supported Polk by a declaration of war. In this way began the Mexican War, May 12, 1846.[53]

The Georgia Telegraph carried the first account of hostilities on

50. Georgia Telegraph, April, 1846.
51. Georgia Telegraph, May, 1846.
52. The United States in the Making—Canfied and Wilder.
53. Bassett: A Short History of the U. S.

Tuesday, May 12th, with a report of the invasion by Mexican troops and their attack on American forces. Thirteen Americans were killed, 36 taken prisoners, and General Taylor's Army placed in a precarious position, according to the news account.

When the notice of the declaration of war was received in Macon, a public meeting of citizens assembled at the Court House to take into consideration the necessity of vigorous cooperation with the government in the prosecution of the war.[54] The Macon Volunteers, under Captain Holmes, offered their services for six months, and began making immediate preparations in that direction. However, Captain Holmes was notified that the War Department had adopted a policy of not receiving troops for less than a year's service, unless the war closed prior to the expiration of that time. Whereupon, he began the organization of an independent group named the Macon Guards, of which he was unanimously elected Captain. Many of the members of the Volunteers enlisted in the new company and there were also numerous young men with no past military affiliations who volunteered their services. In three days time, the company reached its full quota of strength. The Floyd Rifles also tendered their services, which were declined. [55]

The Macon Guards were called into active service on June 1st. The orders were received by Captain Holmes from the War Department and the company began hurried preparations for its departure, which took place on June 4th. Concerning this event, the Georgia Telegraph, June 9, 1846, commented: "The Macon Volunteers left for war Thursday, June 4th. This fine company of hardy volunteers, Captain Holmes, commanding, left the city on Thursday last for the seat of war. Seldom have we witnessed a scene of such thrilling interest as that furnished on their departure. The company consisted of one hundred and two rank and file of good and true men, and we have no fear but their career in the service will not only be honor to officers and men, but creditable alike to the city and state.

"The Guards, after forming at their parade ground, were escorted by the Floyd Rifles, Captain Ross commanding; The Macon Volunteers, Lt. Conner now commanding, because of the new command of Captain Holmes; and the Bibb Cavalry, Captain Rylander, commanding, to the Washington Hall where a large number of their fellow citizens, including many fair ladies, had assembled to cheer them on their patriotic expedition and to witness the presentation of a national flag, wrought by the hands of two fair and patriotic young ladies of the city, for these ardent and chivalric volunteers. An eloquent and appropriate address was delivered by J. Thomas Hardeman, Jr., in present-

54. Georgia Telegraph, May, 1846.
55. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

ing the standard for the ladies. This was followed by a soul-stirring speech from the Hon. A. H. Chappell, which was responded to briefly and most feelingly by that universally beloved and gallant soldier, Captain Isaac Holmes."

The various military organizations then escorted the Guards out of the city, and they encamped the first night near Bibb Camp Ground, where a barbecue had been prepared for them by Judge Bailey. At that time, a sword was presented to Captain Holmes by a number of admiring friends, and a streamer with the inscription, "Macon Guards,—Remember the Alamo" was tendered to the company in an appropriate speech by Samuel R. Blake. A fund amounting to $1,000 was also presented to the group, $800 of this amount having been contributed by citizens and $200 by City Council. [56]

On June 5th, the company proceeded to Columbus where they remained for several weeks during which time the organization of the Georgia Regiment was completed. During the month, Captain Holmes tendered his resignation as Mayor of the City of Macon in order to serve with the military force. He was succeeded on July 13th by James A. Nisbet, who in turn was succeeded as councilman on September 4th by Edmund J. Johnston. [57]

At Columbus, Georgia, a Georgia Regiment, composed of ten companies, was formed. On June 20th, the election of officers took place, the results of which were as follows: For Colonel: Captain Henry R. Jackson, Columbus, 310; Captain Isaac Holmes, Macon Guards, 298; Captain James S. Calhoun, Georgia Light Infantry, 264; Colonel J. B. H. Hoxey, Columbus, thirty-six. Captain Holmes was offered the post of Lieutenant Colonel, which he declined, and Thomas Y. Redd was elected.

The Georgia Regiment was composed of the following organizations: Macon Guards, Captain Holmes, commanding; Columbus Guards, Captain Davis; Richmond Blues, Captain Dill; Jasper Greens, Capt. McMahon; Crawford Guards, Capt. Jones; Fannin Avengers, Capt. Sargent; Canton Volunteers, Capt. Gramble;; Georgia Light Infantry, Capt. Calhoun; Kennesaw Rangers, Capt. Nelson; and the Sumter Volunteers, Capt. Turner.[58]

The Regiment marched from Columbus to Chehaw, Alabama, from which point they traveled by rail to Montgomery. From Montgomery, they were transported by steamer down the Alabama River to Mobile. In passing the wharf at Selma, the pilot gave a blast from the steamer's whistle, the sound of which a company aboard from Cherokee County had never before heard. They instantly concluded that the boiler had exploded, and in their fright, a number jumped overboard, several

56. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
58. Georgia Telegraph, June, 1846.
57. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, City Clerk.

of whom were drowned. As they approached Mobile on the 4th of July and while the boat was still in motion, a colorful celebration took place, and a spirited address was given by Lt. Phinizy, of the Augusta company. The regiment was awarded the honor of having introduced the first celebration of the nation's birthday of freedom on the waters of the Alabama.[59]

The regiment remained in Mobile for two days and then embarked on the steamer, Joseph Day, for Brazos Island, near the mouth of the Rio Grande. At the time of embarkation, the roster of the Macon Guards was composed of the following personnel: Isaac Holmes, Captain; Elisha L. Shelton, 1st Lt.; Edmund S. Rogers, 2nd Lt.; William D. Griffin, 1st Sgt.; John B. Cumming, 2nd Sgt.; John A. McGregor, 3rd Sgt.; Peter J. Shannon, 4th Sgt.; Albert B. Ross, 1st Corp.; Edwin Harris, 2nd Corp.; Thomas E. Orcutt, 3rd Corp.; and Richard T. McGregor, 4th Corp.

Privates: Wilson J. Aderhold, James A. Abbott, Edmund Barnard, James W. Beasley, Orran W. Buffington, Edward Curd, Peter W. Clayton, William J. Cumming, Rufus Cook, William Carter, John W. Cooper, John Cleesby, James Carsons, John R. Candler, William Davis, Isaac Domingos, John L. Ells, William English, James E. Flint, Elijah Foster, Alfred T. Franklin, Charles E. Franklin, Simon W. Furman, Alexander H. Franklin, George A. Grimes, Lewis Ger, Solomon Groce, Richard Head, Elliott Higgins, William Hughes, Alexander Hammersley, Andrew W. S. Harris, William A. Harris, Alexander H. Hawkins, Simeon Horton, William S. Johnson, William Kennedy, D. G. Kennedy, William King, William L. King, John T. Lamar, Wilson Logan, John Longbridge, A. D. Logan, John H. Lane, Allen J. McGraw, John McGowan, Seaborn Moore, James Martin, Alfred B. McKee, William W. Munson, Robert E. Macarthy, Thomas McNeely, Sanford Moore, Robert Melton, Sanford F. Miniard, Thomas J. McCrary, Thomas J. Moody, William Robinson, Alexander Reynolds, Alexander H. Ralston, William N. Ralston, Caleb W. Rembert, David A. Ralston, Marcus Roberts, Albert L. Ross, Thomas Sherly, Sabastian Shaw, William Spratt, Robert Snead, Robert H. Tindall, John S. Tilliston, Gilbert E. Thigpen, William W. Woodall, William Walker, Edward N. Wood, Franklin W. Wright, Robert T. Walker, Timothy D. Wood, William M. Wright, and Claiborn Vaugn.

The voyage on the Gulf of Mexico from Mobile to Brazos Island was uneventful except for the following incident: One night about twelve o'clock, Private Robert Bridges of the Augusta Blues, who had been asleep on the wheel-house, rolled off and fell into the Gulf. His absence was not discovered until the steamer had proceeded a half a mile or more. It was presumed that he had fallen into the sea and the

59. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

boat was halted and slowly returned while life-boats were lowered into the water to look for him. Private William King, of the Macon Guards, was in one of the yawls and heard the sound of a familiar voice at some distance. He headed for that direction and soon discovered his missing comrade, who had been swimming for more than an hour upon the briny deep. Upon being rescued and delivered aboard the steamer, Bridges sought the Captain of the vessel and politely apologized for having delayed his boat on its important mission.

The regiment arrived safely at Brazos Island and after remaining there two weeks, marched up the Rio Grande to Camp Belknap, where they were encamped for several weeks. They then ascended the Rio Grande to Camargo. There was a shortage of steamer fuel and when the supply for the boilers became exhausted, the boat would tie-up until the troops could cut wood from the forests. Upon arriving at Camargo, an unfortunate incident occurred between a portion of an Illinois regiment and the Irish Jasper Greens of Savannah, which arose from a mistake in the interpretation of an order. Five of the Illinois regiment were killed and one member of the Georgia regiment, Sergeant Whalan, of the Greens, lost his life. The officers of the regiments quickly restored peace, and all differences were satisfactorily settled.[60]

Camargo proved to be an unhealthful place and there was much sickness in the regiment. Many died, and the boxes containing new guns for the group were used for coffins. The regiment marched to Monterey, guarding a money train containing $200,000, under Colonel Taylor. A letter from Major Charles Williams, dated: Georgia Regiment, Camp Monterey, October 11, 1846, stated: "The ranks of our regiment have been terribly thinned. We marched across the Chattahoochee River with 910 men and officers. Today, the regiment, all told, barely numbers 600. Though we have discharged many from sickness and disability, still we have deposited nearly seventy beneath the chaparral, all in the short space of four months. We have now arrived at a healthy place, and health blooms on every cheek, though 7,000 soldiers, from every part of the United States are here, encamped within the short space of two miles."

Another company of regulars, approximately 100 men, was organized in Macon. Alexander Scott was elected Captain; Joseph A. White, 1st Lieutenant; and Oliver H. Prince, 2nd Lieutenant. The group left under the command of Lt. Prince on June 20th. The officers were taken severely sick and were compelled to resign but the company continued active and served in Mexico under the command of Captain Duncan L. Clinch until the end of the war.[61]

60. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
61. Supplement, Macon News, July, 1929.

One of Macon's oldest inhabitants, Dr. William Greene, passed away on June 25th. He was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1767, educated at Trinity College in Dublin, emigrated to this country in 1800, and settled in Macon. He was active in politics as well as his profession. Another prominent citizen, General William G. Smith, who was active in military circles and was postmaster, died on October 24, 1846. He was a native of Jones county, but had lived in Macon for over eight years.[62]

A report on the institutions of higher learning in Georgia in 1846 appearing in a November issue of the Georgia Telegraph listed five colleges. They were Wesleyan Female College, Macon; Emory College, Oxford; Mercer University, Penfield; Franklin University, Athens; and Oglethorpe University, near Milledgeville. Macon was also the site of the Reform Medical College, and numerous private schools were located here. Included among these were the Plum Street Seminary; the Wakeman Private School for Females; Vineville Academy; and Mrs. Russell's Dancing Academy at Washington Hall.[63] There was also the Bibb County Academy, located in the block between First, Second, Walnut, and Ocmulgee Street, for boys, and a female section of the Academy situated on the present site of the Macon Hospital.[64]

In December, members of the Georgia Regiment and the citizens of Macon were saddened by the death of Captain Holmes, who died at Monterey, Mexico, after an illness of eleven days. He was one of the pioneer members of the Macon Volunteers and after serving with them in the Florida campaign, was elected commanding officer upon the resignation of Captain Isaac G. Seymour. He had been an officer in the State Bank in Macon; was Mayor of the city at the time he entered active military service during the Mexican War; and was active in many civic, religious, and fraternal organizations. His remains were sent to Macon under the escort of Private George Robinson, of the Macon Guards. From Columbus to Macon, a detachment from the Columbus Light Guards, the Columbian and Oglethorpe Lodges, and the Muscogee Lodge of Odd Fellows, joined the escort. Upon reaching Macon, they were taken in charge by the Macon Volunteers, and under a military escort, were conveyed to the City Hall, which had been elaborately decorated with mourning paraphernalia for the reception. Detachments of troops from the Chatham Artillery, Savannah Volunteer Guards, Republican Blues, Phoenix Riflemen, and German Volunteers attended the funeral. All of the military, societies, and fraternal orders of Macon, and the escort from Columbus joined in the procession. The remains were placed upon a funeral car dressed

62. Georgia Telegraph, June, 1846.
63. Georgia Telegraph, 1846.
64. Macon, the Heart of Georgia, Jos. N. Neel, Jr., Post No. 3, American Legion.

in crepe and plumes; drawn by four black horses; flanked by twelve pall-bearers, four each from the Volunteers, Masons, and Odd Fellows; and were interred in Rose Hill Cemetery.[65]

The Floyd House and Washington Hall were the centers of Macon's stage and entertainment activities during the year, 1846. In January, the famous Orphean Family presented a concert of vocal music in the Long Room of the Floyd House. During April, Mr. and Mrs. Sloman gave a program of music on the harp and piano. During the same month, the celebrated dwarf, Colonel Tom Thumb, appeared at the Washington Hall for three days. Concerning his visit, the Georgia Telegraph stated: "The celebrated dwarf, Tom Thumb, who is 21 years old, 27 inches in height, and weighing but 25 pounds, arrived in Macon on April 27 for three performance at the Washington Hall. The Colonel has visited every Atlantic city where he has been the greatest attraction of any curiosity ever offered to the public. In the city of New York, he was visited by more than 100,000 persons during a three week period. In Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Charleston, and Augusta, his success was none the less remarkable. It is calculated that during his tour in England, he was kissed by two million ladies, which at one shilling each, the price usually charged for this novelty, would amount to nearly $500,000". During April, also, a program of mesmerism was offered at the Floyd House by a Mr. Spencer from New York. Macon people appeared much interested at this time in the lectures and demonstrations which were given on hypnotism. The Georgia Messenger, April 30, 1846 stated: "For the last week, our town has been all agog with Mesmerism. Mr. Spencer has been lecturing and demonstrating almost nightly to large audiences, to whom he has given general satisfaction. He has exhibited some wonderful phenomena of the influence of his will over those whom he succeeded in placing in the mesmeric state." An attraction during the month of December featured Miss Emma Leslie who presented a program of Ethiopian Minstrels.[66]

1847

The year 1847 was ushered in with the annual city election. John J. Gresham was elected Mayor and the following citizens were successful in their race for councilmen: Elijah Bond, James B. Ayres, J. H. R. Washington, Thomas P. Stubbs, Albert Nix, William B. Walls, Daniel F. Clark, and William Cowles. A highlight of the election was the tie between Cowles and Charles Collins for eighth place, which Cowles won in a run-off on January 29.[67]

The month of February marked the organization of a third railroad

65. Georgia Telegraph, January, 1847.
66. Georgia Telegraph, December, 1846.
67. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, City Clerk.

for the city when on February 10th, the Southwestern Railroad Company was formed with Elam Alexander elected as its first president and Henry L. Jewett, secretary and treasurer. Plans for this railroad, however, dated back almost two years and were to a great extent successfully carried out through the resourcefulness and ingenuity of Jerry Cowles, termed by his fellow associates as the "railroad man of the age".

The story is told that Cowles called a public meeting during the Summer of 1845 for the purpose of taking some action which might connect Macon by another railroad with the trade in Southwestern Georgia. The meeting was to take place at the Council Chamber. The night was dark and the rain was falling in great abundance. Mr. Cowles arrived at the meeting place and found no one in the hall except Mr. Freeman, the clerk and treasurer of City Council, whom he requested to remain and keep the hall lighted up while he went out and summoned attendants. The weather was so disagreeable that he found no one who would accompany him until he met Simri Rose in his printing office. Mr. Rose agreed to go with him, and the meeting was held as previously scheduled. Mr. Cowles was unanimously elected Chairman; Mr. Freeman was elected Secretary. Mr. Rose, on the part of the audience, presented the business for the meeting, which was already prepared, and the resolutions were adopted amid much enthusiasm, without a dissenting vote.[68]

The following year, the state legislature granted a charter for the building of the road, which was placed under the control of six commissioners with Elam Alexander as chairman. The commissioners had authority to raise capital for the venture through the sale of stock. A survey was made by F. P. Holcombe, chief engineer, in 1846 and 1847. An amendment to the charter was granted in 1847 which allowed the commissioners to organize the company as soon as $200,000 could be obtained. This amount was raised, and Macon's newest railroad, which eventually connected it with Columbus, became a reality. Macon businessmen who were instrumental in financing the new road, in addition to Cowles and Alexander, included Robert Collins, James Dean, T. A. Brown, Isaac Scott, Charles Cotton, and James Willet.[69]

Frequent reports of the course of the Mexican War were received in Macon. The Georgia Regiment continued on duty at Monterey and were called for duty in guarding trains on several occasions. In March, they were sent to Tampico, and on a voyage to Vera Cruz, the entire regiment was almost lost in a storm at sea.

The following account from a Georgia paper is of interest: "While the people of Georgia are heartily rejoicing over the brilliant victory of Cerro Gordo, they cannot but regret the sad fate of the Georgia

68. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
69. Georgia Telegraph, 1847.

Regiment in not being able to reach the ground before the rout of the Mexicans. The brave Georgians have been peculiarly unfortunate. After having traversed one-half of Mexico, endured all the rigors of the climate, and obtained the reputation of being one of the best drilled regiments in the service, it appears to be their luck to be always hard-by, but never in a fight. When Taylor took Monterey they were advancing from Camargo. Owing to adverse winds they were thrown into the second lines at Vera Cruz, and only a handful of them had the opportunity to smell gunpowder. Scott allowed them to march to Alvarado, especially for a fight, when the cowardly Mexicans ran away before a gun was fired. Returning to Vera Cruz, the command to which they were attached was delayed by the landing of the horses of the Tennessee Cavalry, and they were again thrown into the rear, and probably did not reach Cerro Gordo until the fighting was over. This was no fault of theirs, nor of their gallant officers, because a braver set of men, or men more anxious for distinction, are not to be found. We would not be surprised if the regiment, under such circumstances, were to resolve, regardless of the expiration of their time of service, to pay at least a passing visit to the 'Halls of the Montezumas' before returning to Georgia."[70]

Two newspaper transactions furnished the principal local news during April, 1847. On April 13th, the ownership of the *Georgia Telegraph* was transferred from Oliver H. Prince to Samuel J. Ray. This newspaper had been founded in 1826 with Myron Bartlett, as its first editor. During the same month, the *Georgia Messenger* was sold to S. T. Chapman, who owned the *Georgia Journal* founded in Milledgeville. The resulting combination was published as the *Journal and Messenger*. Simri Rose, who became editor of the Messenger in 1823 three weeks after the first issue, continued as editor of the combined papers.[71]

A railroad accident on the Central Railroad during the early part of June took the lives of three Macon people. The engine and baggage car of the train plunged through a bridge between here and Savannah which had been undermined by heavy rains. Charles England, engineer; Alfred Darby, fireman; and John Long, a train-hand, were all killed.[72]

On June 17th the Macon Guards returned to Macon. The following article appeared in the Georgia Journal and Messenger, June 23, 1847: "A complimentary dinner was given to the recently returned Macon Guards on Saturday, June 19, attended by the Macon Volunteers, Captain Conner, and the Floyd Rifles, Captain Ross, and a large number of citizens. A truly eloquent and touching address was

70. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
71. Georgia Telegraph, April, 1847.
72. Georgia Journal and Messenger, June, 1847.

delivered to the Guards by Samuel R. Blake, Esq. His remarks in regard to the hard service of the Georgia Regiment were very appropriate. His compliments to the Company and its officers for the manner in which they rendered their services were well timed.

"Colonel Blake was responded to in a few appropriate remarks by G. E. Thigpen, Esq., of the Guards, after which all partook of a most excellent barbecue. The compliment was highly deserved for the Guards are uniformly represented as having been one of the best drilled and disciplined corps in the Regiment."

The approved roll of the Company on the day it was mustered out of the service at New Orleans disclosed that the Guards lost six of their members through death and fourteen by reason of discharge for physical disability during the Mexican campaign. The deceased members included Captain Isaac Holmes and Privates James W. Beasley, Thomas McCrary, William W. Wright, Alfred McKee, and A. T. Franklin. Discharged members included A. R. Ross, Edwin Harris, Simon A. Freeman, William S. Johnson, Sanford Moore, D. A. Ralston, Caleb W. Rembert, Thomas McNeely, James Martin, William A. Harris, William Carter, T. D. Wood, Seaborn Moore, and George A. Grimes.[73]

Through the public enterprise of Elam Alexander, preliminary plans were made in July which resulted in bringing the Magnetic Telegraph to Macon the following year. An extract from the Georgia Telegraph, July 6, 1847, commented: "We are gratified in being able to announce that arrangements have been completed by which extension of the Magnetic Telegraph line through this city is now beyond all peradventure. This accomplishment was made possible through the exertions of the Savannah Chamber of Commerce, R. R. Cuyler, of that city, and Elam Alexander. To Mr. Alexander for the public spirit which he has displayed, we are sure that the citizens will not fail to accord the need of praise to which he is so justly entitled. We are gratified also in being informed that the directors of the Central Railroad and Banking Company, the Marine Basin Bank, and the Planters Bank, tendered their aid in a most liberal manner toward the accomplishment of this desirable object."

In November, the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Georgia took place in Macon. One of the highlights of the meeting was the laying of the cornerstone of a monument to be erected to the memory of the late Dr. Ambrose Baber, a former Masonic leader in Georgia, at Rose Hill Cemetery.[74]

Many entertainment attractions appeared in Macon during the year. In January, I. B. Hardy, ventriloquist, presented a program of ventrilo-

73. Georgia Journal and Messenger, June, 1847.
74. Georgia Telegraph, November, 1847.

quism, mimicry, and natural magic at the Apollo Saloon. During February, the following advertisement appeared in the Georgia Messenger: "On Monday next (22 inst.) at 3:00 P.M., a fight between a bear, two years old, and two Mastiff dogs will come off at W. T. Wilson's warehouse on a wager. Great sport may be anticipated as the bear is in good fighting condition and the dogs are from Monroe county and celebrated for their strength and ferocity."

During March, the Macon Theater was opened under the direction of W. C. Forbes with the presentation of Kotzebue's popular play, "The Stranger". Mr. Forbes continued to present attractions through April. A Mr. Wallack also offered a program during the month consisting of serious and comical readings and recitations from Shakespeare and other great poets.[75]

1848

The election of city officials on January 5, 1848 resulted in the selection of George M. Logan, Mayor, and the following Councilmen: Thomas P. Stubbs, James Denton, Sterling Lanier, J. H. R. Washington, Robert Carver, Elijah Bond, William B. Watts, and J. W. Babcock.[76]

At a meeting of stockholders of the Macon and Western Railroad held in Macon on January 5, Isaac Scott, of this city, was elected president of the company and the entire slate of old directors was re-elected for another year.[77]

During the month a new steam-mill was put into operation on Mulberry Street, near the old postoffice building, which attracted many visitors and customers alike. The mill was owned and operated by James Van Valkenburg and could be utilized in grinding corn, wheat, or any other kind of grain. The mill was driven by a steam engine of eight or ten horsepower, and was capable of grinding and bolting 150 bushels of corn or wheat in a day.[78] Many farmers from the surrounding territory took advantage of this new service.

The founder and first editor of the *Georgia Telegraph*, Dr. Myron Bartlett, died on February 7th. Dr. Bartlett was a native of Concord, New Hampshire, and had been a citizen of Georgia and this community for twenty-five years. He published the first issue of the *Telegraph* on November 21, 1826 and during the subsequent years, his fearless editorial policy won much favor throughout the state.

Macon lost another valuable citizen during February. Colonel Henry G. Lamar, an active leader in the life of the city, moved from Macon to Athens. A public dinner was tendered him by a large number of

75. Georgia Messenger and Journal, 1847.
76. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, City Clerk.
77. Georgia Telegraph, 1848.
78. Georgia Telegraph, February, 1848.

friends including A. P. Powers, R. K. Hines, John B. Hines, Thomas Pinkney Smith, Edwin D. Tracy, Isaac Scott, Robert Collins, J. H. R. Washington, N. C. Munroe, Peter Solomon, James A. Nisbet, S. T. Chapman, Samuel J. Ray, Alexander Scott, Elam Alexander, George M. Logan, L. N. Whittle, M. A. Franklin, A. H. Chappell, and Robert Lanier.

The death of ex-president, John Quincy Adams, was announced in the Georgia Telegraph on February 29th. Adams, who was regarded as an intent student and observer of national affairs, was 80 years old and had served sixty-seven years in the public service. As Minister Plenipotentiary, Secretary of State, and President of the United States, he had played leading roles in helping to lay the foundation of the American nation.

At the annual session of the Supreme Court of the State of Georgia held in Macon during February, the following Macon men were admitted to the practice of law: Hartford Green, John Q. A. Alford, B. H. Hill, Daniel A. Allen, Robert M. Richardson, John W. Wilson, D. M. Causey, James M. Kelly, and Gilbert E. Thigpen.

There was much speculation during the month as to when the Magnetic Telegraph line would be completed to Macon. Concerning this, the *Georgia Journal and Messenger,* February 23, 1848, stated: "We have at last the pleasure of announcing the completion of the telegraph line from Charleston, North, and also that there is sufficient wire in Savannah to complete the construction to this place. We are not precisely informed when the line will be in operation as far as Macon, but presume that it will not be later than the 1st of April, although the work has been progressing so slowly of late, that we can venture no definite opinion. The great wonder is, that it has been accomplished at all, and it is difficult to realize the fact even yet that we are so nearly within 'speaking distance' of our business friends in New York. Such, however, is actually the case. It is definitely the greatest triumph of this or any other age, — a triumph of mind over matter; of science over both time and space. Someone has well said that: 'If Franklin brought the lightning from heaven, — Morse has made it speak'."

During March, samples of a new silk cotton raised by James H. R. Washington at his plantation three miles below Macon, from seed provided by W. L. Lawton, of Charleston, were exhibited. Samples of this new product were shown at the Hardeman warehouse and also at the State Bank. This cotton was found to resemble the Sea Island quality more nearly than any other variety yet discovered. In Charleston during the preceding year, while upland cotton was selling for 10 cents a pound, this new silk variety was bringing 30 to 40 cents a

pound. Mr. Washington offered a few of the seed of this new species for sale to other growers in Middle Georgia.[79]

In the March 22nd issue of the Georgia Journal and Messenger, the final treaty of peace between the United States and Mexico was published. Almost a full page was given to this historical event which was known as the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo. Under the terms of the treaty, Mexico acknowledged our title to Texas, New Mexico, and upper California, and, in turn, we paid Mexico $15,000,000 and assumed claims of our citizens against the Mexican government for $3,250,000 more.

April marked the completion of the Magnetic Telegraph line to Macon. On April 8, 1848, the line was completed, and the office of the company opened on the second floor of the Floyd House. David M. Ring was the first operator in charge, and J. C. Butler, assistant operator. On July 19th, the line was completed and opened all the way from Washington, D. C. to New Orleans.[80]

Macon was on the main line of this new, advanced method of communication primarily through the efforts of Elam Alexander and Robert Collins. When the line was first contemplated, the promoters attempted to secure subscribers to help finance the project, but found Maconites unresponsive. They were planning to establish the line on the upper route via Atlanta and West Point to Montgomery when Mr. Alexander offered to take the whole subscription alone, if need be, in order to have the line brought to Macon, and subsequently purchased $17,500 of the stock. Dr. Collins expressed interest in the venture and later secured $2,500 of Mr. Alexander's stock.

Macon could now boast that it was on the longest railroad in the world built and operated by one company and also on the longest telegraph line in the world built by one company. And both of the men, Alexander and Collins, were actively identified with the promotion of both projects.

A fashionable bath-house was opened in the city during April at the corner of Walnut and Third Streets in an establishment owned by Dr. Marshall. Hot and cold bathing was provided with all of the accommodations enjoyed in the larger cities.

The annual Spring horse races were resumed at Central Race Track during the first week in May. Eight stables were represented and fifteen horses entered. Purses totalling $1,500 were awarded to the winners. Large crowds attended the daily running of these races.

The Grand Encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was held in Macon on May 15th. State officers elected at this meeting included the following Macon men: W. S. Williford, W. M. Morton, J. R. Boone, William Dibble, E. C. Grannis, and George Patten.

79. Georgia Journal and Messenger, March, 1848.
80. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

A report of the Central Railroad Company on the 1st of June showed a heavy volume of business and much prosperity. Four per cent dividends were declared for the preferred stockholders, and two and a half per cent dividends to the regular stockholders. The company reported a surplus of more than $40,000 for the preceding six month period after the payment of all dividends.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southwestern Railroad Company in this city on June 8th, Mr. Holcomb, the construction engineer, reported that the line had been permanently located the distance of thirty-two miles from Macon. According to his report, the construction of the line was progressing according to schedule with over 300 hands employed. The Board announced that the company intended to proceed with the construction direct to Columbus, but that they would ultimately diverge in the direction of Albany.[81]

The first bale of new cotton was received in the Macon market on August 5th. Grown on the plantation of John B. Ross, it was purchased at 9 cents a pound and forwarded immediately to Savannah. The first bales in 1846 and 1847 reached the market on August 19th and came from the plantation of Mr. West in Houston County. The peach crop around Macon was also very successful at this time. In great demand were the peaches of a Mr. Tinley from the Rutland district, which averaged one-half to three-fourths of a pound in weight, and measured seven to eleven inches in circumference. This particular peach was a freestone variety with red and yellow meat and small seeds. It was introduced and first cultivated in this section by Simri Rose.

Cotton receipts at Macon for the year ending September 1, 1848, showed a substantial increase over the size of the crop for the preceding year. Total receipts in 1848 amounted to 130,438 bales as compared with 102,044 bales for 1847. This was a net increase of 28,394 bales.

Frederick Sims, Esquire, one of Macon's oldest and most respectable citizens, was the victim of a sudden and violent accident on August 29th, which caused his death. While acting temporarily as conductor of the passenger cars upon the Macon and Western Railroad, he acted in performance of duties as follows: About fifteen miles above Macon, the locomotive whistle gave a warning of some obstruction upon the tracks while passing through a plantation. Mr. Sims, anxious to discover the danger, leaned as far as possible out of the car which brought his head suddenly in contact with a post, breaking his skull and killing him almost instantly. His remains were returned to Macon by the same train and followed to the grave by a large concourse of friends, and the Masonic Fraternity, of which he was an active member. Mr. Sims was a past member of the Georgia legislature, past Mayor

81. Georgia Journal and Messenger, June, 1848.

of the city of Macon, had served as Postmaster, and filled many other stations with credit to himself and profit to the community.

A report of the Sexton of Macon to the City Council in October showed that during the months of July, August, and September, which were generally regarded as the most sickly months of the year, there were a total of twenty-five deaths in the city proper. The population of the city proper was set at 6,000, thus giving the city a mortality rate of one to every sixty inhabitants. Macon's death rate was considerably below the average of the entire country, which provided the city with a certain civic pride as well as each citizen with a personal satisfaction.[82]

Two circuses featured the amusement attractions for the city during 1848. The first, Stone & McCollum's Great Western Circus, performed on November 4th and 5th. The second, Raymond & Company's Menagerie, boasting the greatest collection of wild animal life in the United States, presented programs on December 28th to 30th to close out the year.

1 8 4 9

George M. Logan was re-elected Mayor of Macon on January 10, 1849 and the following Councilmen were named: O. G. Sparks, James B. Ayres, William Collins, Thomas J. Shinholser, Benjamin F. Ross, William B. Carhart, J. W. Babcock, and William Dibble.[83]

Macon physicians were active in helping to form a State Medical Association during 1849. At a meeting held on February 19th at which Dr. Charles Thompson, presided and Dr. C. T. Quintard acted as secretary, resolutions were offered recommending that a state medical convention be held for the purpose of organizing a State Medical Association, and that the City of Macon be accepted as a place for the assemblage of the Convention because of its central location and readiness of access. Similar action had already been taken by the Medical College of Georgia and the Medical Society of Savannah. A committee of three was appointed to make arrangements for the Convention. This committee consisted of Doctors E. L. Strohecker, James M. Green, and C. T. Quintard. Arrangements were made with the President and Directors of the Central, State, and Macon & Western Railroads reducing their fares to half price for all of the members of the Convention.[84]

On February 20th, Macon lost one of its outstanding citizens and jurists in the passing of Judge Edward D. Tracy. An extract from a sketch of his life prepared by intimate friends at the request of Stephen

82. Georgia Journal and Messenger, October, 1848.
83. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, City Clerk.
84. Georgia Telegraph, February, 1849.

F. Miller for use in his "Bench and Bar of Georgia" disclosed that Judge Tracy was born at Norwich, Connecticut in 1791. He was educated in private schools in that state, and in 1811 became associated with a large mercantile business in New York. He remained there until 1819, and then commenced the study of law in a celebrated law school at Windham, Connecticut, taught by Chief Justice Swift, who was generally regarded as the most learned jurist in that state. He was admitted to the bar and shortly afterwards, moved to Georgia where he settled in Macon in 1824. He was appointed on the committee to receive General LaFayette on his visit to Macon in 1825. He conversed with the distinguished visitor in both French and Spanish. LaFayette was surprised to find so accomplished a linguist in a recently settled town, which but three years before had been a wilderness and the abode of Indians. Having also learned a few words from the language of the Indians, Tracy facetiously repeated them to LaFayette, who replied, "You are the only Anglo-American that I have met who could speak the true American vernacular."

In 1826, Judge Tracy was chosen Intendant of Macon. He became associated with Major Oliver H. Prince in the practice of law during the same year. The firm was dissolved in 1828 and David B. Butler became a partner with Tracy. In 1835, Mr. Butler retired, and was succeeded by John J. Gresham. The firm of Tracy and Gresham continued until 1841 when Mr. Tracy was elected to a four year term as Judge of the Superior Court of the Flint Circuit. Upon the expiration of his term, Judge Tracy returned to the bar and resumed his former partnership with Mr. Gresham, which continued until his death. Judge Tracy was widely known for his keen sense of humor and indescribable wit. He ranked as the leading commercial lawyer of his circuit, and one of the best in the entire state. After his retirement from the Bench, his successor reversed nineteen of his decisions. They were reconsidered by the Supreme Court, which in every instance, sustained the decisions of Judge Tracy.[85] Appropriate resolutions in respect to Judge Tracy were drawn by members of the Bar and presented on February 21 at the annual meeting of the Supreme Court of Georgia in Macon. An extract of the resolutions follows: "Resolved: That the members of the court and of the bar assembled at the Supreme Court in Macon deeply feel the loss they have sustained in the death of their brother, Edward D. Tracy, and now record for him their appreciation as a lawyer of high attainments ,a gentleman of warm heart and refined feelings, the chosen and refined friend of his constituency, the upright and profound Judge, whether in his private or public capacity, still the same true-hearted, energetic, honorable, man." Whereupon, the Court and bar adjourned and attended the funeral in a body.

85. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

On March 12-13, Ex-President James K. Polk, his wife and two nieces, Miss Rucker and Miss Hays, and Mr. Walker, a former Secretary of the Treasury, visited Macon. Mr. Polk was returning to his home via Richmond, Charleston, Savannah, and Macon, spending a day in each city, after attending the inauguration of General Zachary Taylor. A reception committee met the distinguished visitor and guests at the ninety-mile station and escorted them to the city. An immense crowd greeted them at the East Macon depot and a procession composed of the military and of citizens on horseback, in carriages, and on foot, formed and escorted the party to the Floyd House which had been prepared for their reception.[86] During the morning of the following day, Mayor Logan and members of the City Council called upon the former President and his party, and they were officially welcomed and extended the hospitalities of the city. The party was then escorted to a balcony in front of the hotel and the Hon. A. H. Campbell introduced its members to a large congregation of citizens who were assembled. J. A. Nisbet made appropriate remarks in behalf of the citizens. Both Mr. Polk and Mr. Walker made pleasant replies. The party then returned to the parlors and were visited by the ladies and gentlemen of the city from twelve to three o'clock. During the afternoon, Mr. Polk, his nieces, and others visited the Female College, and were introduced by the President to the young ladies of the institution. In the evening, a complimentary "fete" was given to the party, which Mr. Polk and his accomplished nieces attended until a late hour. The party left the city the next morning, amidst the roar of cannon and the cheers of the many Maconites who gathered at the depot to witness their departure.[87]

A horticultural association was organized in Macon on March 31, 1849. Interested members met at the City Hall for the purpose of adopting a system of by-laws for its government and otherwise permanently organizing. The meeting was well attended and much interest indicated in the object of the society. Officers and committees elected included the Rev. Stephen Elliot, president; Simri Rose, Iverson L. Harris, Rev. Richard Hooker, and Rev. E. H. Myers, vice-presidents; George W. Fish, secretary; I. C. Plant, treasurer. Finance committee: William B. Parker, Thaddeus G. Holt, Dr. T. R. Lamar. Premium committee: Charles Collins, James Nisbet, S. T. Chapman, Dr. H. K. Green, and Herman Mead. Prize committee: Dr. James Green, Robert Nelson, Simri Rose, George W. Fish, and Charles Collins.[88]

On March 20, the Georgia Medical Convention assembled in Macon with a large attendance from every section of the state.[89] Dr. L. D.

86. Georgia Telegraph, March, 1849.
87. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
88. Georgia Telegraph, March, 1849.
89. Records from Library of Dr. J. L. Gallemore, Perry, Georgia.

Ford, Augusta, was elected president; Dr. R. D. Arnold, Savannah, and Dr. T. R. Lamar, Macon, vice-presidents; and Drs. J. M. Green and C. T. Quintard, both of Macon, secretaries. A constitution and by-laws for the permanent organization of the association were adopted, and on motion of Dr. Charles Thompson, of Macon, the convention resolved itself into the "Medical Society of the State of Georgia". Delegates were chosen to the American Medical Association meeting to be held in Boston during May and included Dr. E. L. Strohecker, of Macon. There was much discussion at the convention concerning medical legislation, and a resolution setting forth the importance of statistical information in establishing the laws of life and death, health and disease was presented. Members of the profession were urged to collect all facts bearing upon these points. A committee was appointed to secure the organization of auxiliary societies in every county in Georgia, and Macon was selected as the site of the next annual meeting of the Society.[90] At a meeting of the citizens of Bibb County held on April 17th for the purpose of organizing an Agricultural Society, Samuel B. Hunter was named chairman and E. G. Jeffers, secretary. A resolution stating the object of the new society was offered by John J. Gresham and a committee composed of Gresham, Asa E. Earnest, James W. Armstrong, Pulaski Holt, and Abner P. Powers was named to prepare a constitution and by-laws.

Samuel R. Blake proposed that an address be prepared and disseminated to citizens of other counties in Georgia presenting the advantages of a farm association and urging their participation. Named to this committee were Blake, James Smith, A. H. Chappell, Washington Poe, and Edwin B. Wood.[91]

A new manufacturing firm was added to the increasing number of industrial concerns in the city when on June 27th the Macon Manufacturing Company held its organizational meeting. John J. Gresham was elected president and directors included William B. Johnson, Nathan C. Monroe, Thaddeus G. Holt, and Hiram B. Troutman. Definite plans were formulated for the construction of a factory in or near Macon to be propelled by steam power. By-laws and rules for the regulation and governing of the factory were proposed and adopted whereby capital stock in the amount of $100,000 in 1,000 shares of $100 each might be procured.

A terrible epidemic of cholera swept the country during the summer of 1849. The Georgia Telegraph of July 3, 1849 reported hundreds of cases and many deaths from this dreaded disease in Philadelphia, New York, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Boston, Nashville, Memphis, and other metropolitan areas. In the preceding twenty-four hours, there

90. Georgia Telegraph, March, 1849.
91. Georgia Telegraph, April, 1849.

were thirty-eight reported deaths in New York, 124 in Cincinnati and hundreds of new cases. Macon was unusually fortunate in being free of this dreaded disease, and in order to protect the health of the local citizenry, Mayor Logan and the City Council passed the following ordinance which was given wide publicity throughout the summer months: "The general health enjoyed by the citizens of Macon is probably without a parallel in any community of its size in the Union. To insure this blessing, a general state of cleanliness during the summer months should be rigorously enforced. The aldermen of the city hereby called upon to report the names of two citizens for each square in the city, whose duty it shall be to co-operate with the Aldermen and Board of Health, to examine at least once a week, until the 10th of October, all yards and cellars, and to require the instant removal from the city of all nuisances and filth calculated to engender disease.

"Occupants of houses are called upon to cause their premises to be thoroughly cleansed and ventilated; and it is further suggested that the yards and cellars having been cleansed, should be sprinkled with lime or some other active disinfecting agent. Those who are aware of the existence of nuisances of any kind likely to become dangerous to the health of the city should lose no time in reporting the same to the Mayor. Proper vigilance will be exercised by the city authorities for the removal of all such annoyances. A supply of lime will be supplied free of charge, by the city authorities, to those who are unable to buy, on application at this office. The fines imposed by law for neglect in cleansing yards will in all cases be enforced when reported to this office. Signed: George M. Logan."[92]

A large and colorful celebration commemorated Independence Day on the 4th of July. A Federal salute of thirty guns was given at sunrise followed by the ringing of all the church bells in the city for thirty minutes. A procession formed in front of Washington Hall at 10:00 A.M. and marched from there to the Presbyterian Church. The order of the procession was as follows: 1—Marshal; 2—Music; 3—Military Escort—Macon Volunteers; Military from Abroad; Major General and Suite; Brigadier General and Suite; 4—Societies and Orders; 5—Orator and Reader; 6—Committee of Arrangements; 7—Revolutionary soldiers; 8—Judges of Superior and Inferior Courts; 9—Mayor and Aldermen; 10—Citizens in general.

At the Presbyterian Church, the Declaration of Independence was read by A. H. Colquitt and the oration was delivered by E. A. Nisbet. Music was furnished by the Presbyterian choir. A special collection was taken in aid of the National Washington Monument as an offering from the City of Macon.

Dr. E. J. Smith was the Marshal of the Day and the committee in

92. Georgia Telegraph, July, 1849.

charge was composed of George M. Logan, J. A. Nisbet, Robert A. Smith, James M. Greene, T. R. Bloom, J. D. Carhart, and A. R. McLaughlin.

At a stockholders meeting of the Washington-New Orleans Magnetic Telegraph Company held in Washington, D. C. during the early part of July, three Macon men were elected to important positions. Elam Alexander was elected president; Henry L. Jewett, secretary; and Dr. Robert Collins, director.

The Horticultural Association of Macon held its first public exhibition at Temperance Hall, over the store of Messrs. Logan and Atkinson, on July 10-11. Many varieties of fruits, vegetables, and flowers were entered in the show and large crowds attended. Prizes were awarded to the following: Joseph Bond, best half a peck of peaches; Simri Rose, second best half a peck of peaches; P. S. Carolan, best peck of apples; Robert Nelson, best three melons; also, best display of roses; Mrs. William Gray, second best display of roses; R. Backhoff, best fuschia in a pot; Mrs. J. J. Gresham, most beautiful oleander; Mrs. Robert Nelson, best and most appropriate design (a beautiful temple formed of moss and cut-flowers); also, best bouquet suitable for a center table; P. S. Carolan, second best bouquet suitable for a center table; Mrs. Robert Nelson, best hand bouquet; Mrs. Simri Rose, second best hand bouquet; P. S. Carolan, best display of vegetables; G. W. Fish, second best display of vegetables; P. S. Carolan, best half dozen beets; Thomas W. Collins, best half a peck of tomatoes; J. L. Davis, best three heads of cabbage; G. W. Fish, second best three heads of cabbage; P. S. Carolan, best three watermelons; J. T. Dozier, second best three watermelons.[93]

A Mass Meeting expressing opposition to some of the contemplated policies of the State Legislature was held by a group of Macon citizens in the Council Hall on November 27th. Remarks were heard from J. H. R. Washington and Washington Poe, after which the following resolution was adopted: Resolved: "That the citizens of Macon consider it inexpedient to take any steps in reference to the removal of the seat of government, but should the legislature in its wisdom consider it proper to change the location of the seat of government and shall select the city of Macon we have full confidence in the Mayor and Council of the city of Macon to make all necessary arrangements to carry that object into effect." At this meeting also, a committee composed of A. P. Powers, James Ren, R. A. L. Atkinson, Washington Poe, and James H. R. Washington drew up a letter of protest, representing the people of Macon and its vicinity, against any interference by the Legislature with the question of a Railroad connection at

93. Georgia Telegraph, July, 1849.

Macon. This letter was sent to both branches of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia.

Macon had a more varied amusement and recreational program in 1849 than in any recent preceding year. A musical concert and a negro minstrel were presented in February, the former by the Steyermarkesche Musical Company and the latter by the Aeolian Minstrels. April was a gala month for sports-minded citizens as the annual spring horse races were presented April 3-7 under the sponsorship of H. T. Powell and Company, proprietors of the Central Race Course. Sweepstakes were held for five consecutive days and purses totaling $1,850 were awarded. Colts from South Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia were entered. A Macon man, Colonel Leroy Napier, entered several horses. Herr Alexander with his necromantic wonders and magic presented a show at the Council Chamber during April. The largest painting in the world, Stockwell's grand moving panorama of the Mississippi River, was shown in Macon during the same month. This panorama was described as being over four miles long and represented a view of country 3,500 miles in length. Every city, town, village, and landing on the Mississippi River from the Gulf of Mexico to the falls at St. Louis were said to be included.[94] The reappearance of Tom Thumb, the midget, occurred during May. Large crowds attended his appearances at the Council Chamber. The celebrated violinist Franz Coenen, performed in the city in June en route to Mexico. The Great New Orleans Circus completed the attractions for the year with performances during the months of July and October. World renowned equestrians, clowns, and Herr Oppugen's Brass Band featured this circus.

1850

The year 1850, ushered in a decade of continued prosperity highlighted from a political point of view by the passage of the celebrated but much debated "Compromise of 1850". It marked the beginning of a "business man's peace" which lasted until the secession of the Southern states from the Union. During this period, capital was abundant, and there were numerous opportunities for good investments. Industry prospered in the North and "Cotton was King" in the South. By 1850, the value of the Southern cotton crop had grown to more than $100,000,000. In the same year, 50 per cent of the total exports of the United States was in cotton from the South against 9 per cent in manufactures from the North.

But even though there was a called political truce between the two sections which endured for ten years, the prosperity of the industrial North and the agricultural South tended to draw them further and further apart. Their economic interests created political and social con-

94. Georgia Telegraph, 1849.

flicts which became more and more irreconcilable. And, despite the herculean efforts on the part of several of the nation's great leaders from both sections, threats of secession and disunion in the South, and the abolition of slavery and defiance in the North became more and more realistic and meaningful as the period progressed.

The annual election of city officials on January 9th was the first event of particular interest to Macon citizens in 1850. George M. Logan was re-elected Mayor of the city and the following Councilmen were chosen: Henry G. Ross, William Collins, Benjamin F. Ross, Thomas J. Shinholser, William Dibble, James M. Green, Z. T. Conner, and Robert Findlay.[95]

On February 19th, devastating fire swept the entire block on Cotton Avenue between Mulberry and Cherry Streets, destroying all of the buildings. Several structures on Triangular Block were also consumed by the flames. The total damage was appraised in excess of $30,000. Most of the buildings were of wooden construction. The work of rebuilding started in the spring, and the new structures were built of brick and presented a very attractive appearance.[96]

The death of John C. Calhoun, the great Southern statesman and champion of states rights, was announced on March 12th. A special program was planned in his honor and presented on July 4th. At the conclusion of the Sabbath School exercises on that day, the Rev. Ellison delivered a eulogy at the Methodist Church commemorating the life of the great South Carolinian. The various military companies, fraternities and orders, and a large group of citizens, participated in the ceremonies.

The death of President Zachary Taylor in Washington was announced on July 10th. A public meeting of citizens was held at the Court House and a preamble and resolutions were adopted. A committee was appointed to make arrangements for appropriate exercises. On October 1st, an imposing demonstration in honor of General Taylor was held. All of the military, the fraternities and societies, and a large number of citizens joined in the procession, which proceeded to the Presbyterian Church where Judge E. A. Nisbet delivered an admirable eulogy in honor of the lamented hero and ex-President.

On June 12th, Macon's newest hotel, the Lanier House, was opened. During July, General Lopez, the noted adventurer, who during the year was to lead an expedition in an attempt to seize the government of Cuba, visited Macon and found many sympathizers. The weather during July and August was very warm, averaging between ninety-five and one hundred, and going as high as 104 on one occasion.[97]

During the summer and early fall of 1850, there was much local

95. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, City Clerk.
96. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
97. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

political activity. This was a natural reaction from the heated debates which were going on in Congress relative to the position of the North and South. Many mass meetings, state conventions, and local rallies were held. Political tension was at a high pitch and did not subside until the full effects of the Compromise Bill were well known.

Probably no other gathering of public men in our history, except the convention which met at Philadelphia in 1787 to frame the Constitution of the United States contained so many political geniuses of the first rank as the Senate which debated the principles of slavery and states rights during this year. There met for the last time, the great triumvirate of American statesmen, Clay, Webster, and Calhoun, — all three born during the Revolutionary War, and all so identified with every public question for a generation that to write the biography of any one would be to write the history of our nation. With them were a collection of brilliant newcomers — Benton, Cass, Bell, Douglas, Davis, Seward, Chase, and Hale. In the House, the Democrats and Whigs were almost evenly divided. In this critical situation, the aged Henry Clay, whose voice had been raised for moderation ever since the days of the Missouri Compromise thirty years before. came forward with measures calculated to reconcile the opposing factions. There were so many provisions in his plan, giving certain concessions to the North, and others to the South, that it became known as the Omnibus Bill.

The debates on this measure lasted all during the year until late summer. Some of the most powerful speeches ever heard in the Senate were made. Clay's fervid plea for harmony introduced the bill. Calhoun was to speak on March 4th, but he was too enfeebled by the ravages of consumption to deliver his carefully prepared speech, and his colleague, Senator Mason, delivered it for him. It was his last word. He died shortly afterwards. Daniel Webster's Seventh of March speech was an inspiring plea for harmony and unity. He put himself on record against the extension of slavery into new territory, but spoke in favor of Clay's compromise measure. This disappointed many of the anti-slavery leaders of the North, who considered Webster almost an idol. Many other fervent and passionate speeches were made for and against the compromise.[98]

Excitement throughout the state during the course of this political crisis was intense. Two parties were formed, the Southern Rights and the Union parties. The first were called by their opponents "fire-eaters", while the latter, in turn, were called by their opponents "Submissionists".[99]

The first meeting of the Southern Rights group in Macon took place in July when an organizational meeting was held at the Court

98. Muzzey: The American People.
99. Supplement, Macon News, July, 1929.

House. The entire Democratic party of the city together with a number of unofficial Whigs heard addresses by ex-Governor Charles J. McDonald, Hon. Christopher B. Strong, and Colonel R. W. McCune. A Southern Rights Mass meeting was held in Macon on August 22nd which was attended by delegates from most of the counties in Georgia, and by representatives from Alabama and South Carolina. Ex-Governor McDonald and Christopher B. Strong were elected Co-Presidents. Nine vice-presidents and two secretaries were chosen. R. B. Rhett of South Carolina spoke for two hours advocating the principles of state rights, following addresses by Mr. McDonald and Mr. Strong. He was followed by William L. Yancey and Col. Cochrane, both of Alabama. After an adjournment for social purposes and a barbecue the convention reassembled and was addressed by Walter T. Colquitt and W. H. Stiles. During the evening many other speeches were made in various parts of the city. The group adopted several resolutions which reaffirmed the principles of state rights and the adoption of the Missouri Compromise Line.[100]

On September 23rd, a proclamation was issued by Governor Towns to the people of Georgia calling a State Convention to meet at Milledgeville on Tuesday, the 10th of December, to consider the recent acts of Congress. This proclamation provided for the election of delegates from the counties to attend the convention. Political excitement, already intense, increased even more. Public meetings were held in every county in the state by both parties, each expressing their principles and drawing up a platform.

The Union party of Bibb county held a large meeting at the Court House on September 28th. T. G. Holt presided at this meeting and in his opening remarks he stated that the subject to be considered was momentous. It was union or dissolution. Washington Poe delivered a stirring address after which he submitted a set of resolutions favoring the congressional acts. They were passed with great enthusiasm. Many officers were elected and committees appointed to work for the party's interest.

Macon was saddened with the announcement of the news that several local citizens were drowned in the sinking of a ship on October 4th. About 2:00 A.M. on that morning, the bark, Isaac Mead, from New York, was run into by the steamship, Southerner, and sank in five minutes. There were twenty-six passengers aboard, all of whom perished except two. One of the survivors was a Mr. Bradley, of the firm, Wood & Bradley, of this city. Among those who were lost were Mrs. Lyman Barnes and Mrs. Bradley, of Macon; also, Mr. Hezekiah Granniss and Miss Harriet Granniss, of Connecticut, who were on their way to Macon for the purpose of living in this city.[101]

100. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
101. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

On October 7th, the Union Party held another mass meeting at the Court House and Alexander H. Stephens addressed a large group of those opposed to secession or dissolution.

The Southern Rights Party rallied in strength at the Court House on the following evening, October 8th. Thomas King was named chairman of the meeting, and J. H. Morgan and A. H. Colquitt appointed secretaries. A preamble and resolutions which submitted a platform of Southern Rights with Union and constitutional equality were prepared by a committee of twenty-four with Colonel Bailey as chairman. Colonel T. C. Howard addressed the meeting in a bold and forceful manner, after which a committee was appointed to select candidates to the state convention to be supported by the Southern Rights Party of Bibb.

On November 5th, Howell Cobb addressed a large meeting of the Union Party of Bibb county at Hardeman's new warehouse and made plans for the selection of its candidates to the state convention.

The election of delegates to the state convention took place on November 25th. Both parties had nominated their strongest and most available men. The political contest was wild and heated all over the state. In Bibb county, 1,257 votes were cast which resulted in a victory for the Union Party. Delegates elected from that group included Robert Collins, Washington Poe, A. P. Powers, and William Scott. The largest number of votes was received by Dr. Collins, which was 161 more than the top man on the States Rights ticket.

The delegates met in Milledgeville on December 10th and the convention was organized by calling Judge Edward Y. Hill to the Chair and Robert S. Lanier, secretary. The unusual interest which prevailed was demonstrated by the fact that there was attendance from every county in Georgia. Thomas Spalding, only surviving signer of the constitution of the state, was elected president of the convention by acclamation. W. B. Wofford and Andrew J. Miller were chosen vice-presidents, while R. S. Lanier continued as secretary. A committee of thirty-three members was appointed by the chair to report business for the convention. On the morning of December 13th, Charles J. Jenkins, chairman of this committee, presented the report. Considerable discussion took place relative to this report, but it was finally adopted 237—19. The report, which had been written by Mr. Jenkins, declared "that the State of Georgia will and ought to resist even as a last resort, to a disruption of every tie which binds her to the union, any action of Congress incompatible with the safety, domestic tranquility, the rights, and honor of the slave-holding states." It was received with much enthusiasm throughout the state, but by this time the Compromise of 1850 had calmed the intense tension which had existed all year long between the factions.[102]

102. Supplement: Macon News, July, 1929.

The Census of Macon and Bibb county, which was reported at the end of the year, showed substantial gains in population for the preceding five-year period. The population within the corporate limits of Macon consisted of 3,323 whites, 2,352 slaves, and eighty-eight free negroes for a total of 5,763. This represented an increase of 1,574, for the city. The population of the county was broken down into 7,004 whites, 5,633 slaves, and fifty-one free negroes for a total of 12,688. This amounted to a gain of more than 2,000.[103]

It was during this year, also, that Macon enjoyed the advantages of its first waterworks. The project was promoted by Charles A. Ells, and the source of the water was a huge cistern at the foot of the hill in front of Wesleyan College. This water was used by Mr. Ells and the four hotels in Macon at that time, — the Lanier House, the Macon House, the Floyd House, and Washington Hall. The entire expense of operation was paid by Mr. Ells.[104]

Three circuses, a panorama, a musical concert, and the minstrels featured Macon's amusement and theatrical program for the year. Robinson and Eldred's Grand New York Circus and Welch, Delevan, and Nathan's National Circus both presented attractions in January. In April, Hutching's Grand Classical Panorama of the Seas and Shores of the Mediterranean was shown at Ousley's Hall. Raymond & Company's Menagerie, featuring a variety of wild animals, played in the city during May. A special musical concert was presented at the new Lanier House in June featuring Madame Anna Bishop, the celebrated prima donna, and Mr. Bouchsa, prominent harpist. Campbell's original minstrels performed for the theater-goers in October presenting songs, duets, choruses, dances, and operatic burlesques.[105]

1851

J. H. R. Washington won the election for Mayor which was held on January 8, 1851. Elected to City Council were Sam F. Gore, Thadeus G. Holt, L. N. Whittle, C. A. Ells, J. L. Jones, Charles P. Levy, Carleton B. Cole, and Z. T. Conner. On June 6th, Robert G. Lanier succeeded Conner, resigned. And on July 7, Martin Hall and Robert H. Hardaway succeeded Sam F. Gore and C. A. Ells, both resigned. The report of the retiring Mayor, George M. Logan, which was published on the 9th of January, disclosed that city finances had been wisely managed and the debt had been reduced to approximately $60,000. It was generally agreed that this could be paid off at the rate of $10,000 a year for the next six years without neglect to the city's main interests.[106]

103. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
104. Supplement: Macon News, July, 1929.
105. Georgia Telegraph, 1850.
106. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, City Clerk.

Organized at the Methodist Church during January of this year was the Macon Sacred Music Society. Dr. W. T. Lightfoot was elected president; William M. Roberts, vice-president; P. A. Strobel, secretary; and Edward Ives, conductor.

Two other organizations also elected officers during the month. The Central Horticultural Society elected Simri Rose as its president; E. H. Myers, J. L. Harris, Charles Collins, and James Nisbet, vice-presidents; L. C. Plant, treasurer; and James M. Green, secretary. The Mechanics Society of Macon elected Charles G. Douglass, president; Benjamin F. Griffin and E. C. Sherwood, vice-presidents; David Tousley and L. F. W. Andrews, secretaries; and A. F. Sherwood, treasurer.[107]

About the middle of January, the river rose several feet due to the heavy winter rains and there was much speculation that the new river steamer, "Isaac Scott", would be able to proceed up the river to the Macon Wharf.

Railroad activity around Macon continued good. A report of the Central Railroad showed an increase in business of 17 per cent over the same period of time during the preceding year. The road was reported to be in good condition and its management efficient.

A sordid tragedy occurred on February 7th in the Vineville section. The citizens of Vineville were aroused about midnight by the alarm of fire in the building occupied by a Mrs. Swinden, opposite the Winship residence. The well rope was found to be cut, the bucket missing, and doors of the house heavily barred. Suspicions were soon aroused that Mrs. Swinden and her four children had perished in the fire. As soon as the fire abated, their bodies were discovered. An investigation was made on the following day and a coroner's jury found that Mrs. Swinden, in a fit of mental derangement, murdered her four children by cutting their throats with a razor. She then fired the house, and either cut her own throat or voluntarily perished in the flames.[108]

The ceremony of laying the cornerstone of the new Episcopal Church (Christ Church) took place on March 12, 1851, at the church lot on Walnut Street. An impressive program was held and conducted by the Rev. J. A. Shanklin, Rector. Plans called for the main building to be 87 by 51 feet in area and 31 feet high. The main tower was to be 100 feet tall. Gothic architecture was planned as the style for the church and its cost was estimated at $12,000.

A movement was launched during 1851 in Macon for the education of the blind in Georgia. W. S. Fortescue, himself blind and highly cultured, came to Macon during the early part of the year from Philadelphia for the purpose of founding a school for the blind in Geor-

107. Georgia Telegraph, January, 1851.
108. Georgia Journal and Messenger, February, 1851.

gia.[109] At a meeting called by Dr. James M. Green at the Council Chamber on April 18th, measures were adopted that laid the foundation for the establishment, in Macon, of the Academy for the Blind, State of Georgia. The Hon. E. A. Nisbet was named chairman of the group working on this project and A. R. Freeman acted as secretary. The committee raised funds for the immediate instruction of four blind students by Mr. Fortescue, and laid the groundwork which resulted in the state legislature chartering the institution and providing for its maintenance the following year.

Major James Smith, prominent lawyer and citizen of Macon for many years, died on May 5th. Major Smith, formerly of Clinton, Georgia, was a member of the Board of Commissioners which laid off the county of Bibb and the town of Macon.[110]

Hon. Christopher B. Strong died suddenly in Perry during the early part of May. He was regarded as one of the senior members of the bar in this section and had long been identified with the political and business affairs of this city. His remains were brought to Macon and interred with high honors in Rose Hill Cemetery.

James A. Nisbet was named Postmaster during June, succeeding Z. T. Conner.

On July 10th, the Academy for the Blind was formally organized in Macon. The committee appointed to raise funds on April 18th reported a total of $802 contributed. A survey also disclosed that there were in the State of Georgia more than 1,000 blind children. Nathan C. Munroe was elected president of the board of trustees and Robert A. Smith was named secretary. Mr. Fortescue began the instruction of the four sightless students, who were listed as Francis Hodges, Mary Wimberly, Mary Fairner, and Mary Wooten.[111]

Alexander H. Stephens delivered a stirring address to the citizens of Macon at the Court House on September 22nd. His speech was generally considered the most powerful heard in vindication of the Compromise Measures, and the Georgia platform.

On October 29th, the Cotton Planters Convention of the Southern States assembled in Macon, and a large number of delegates from Virginia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and from all parts of Georgia were in attendance. Appointed to be delegates to the convention from Bibb county were Joseph Bond, James Dean, J. B. Lamar, N. Bass, Pulaski S. Holt, T. G. Holt, N. H. Beall, L. Napier, S. Napier, J. W. Armstrong, A. H. Chappell, Robert Collins, M. A. Franklin, J. J. Gresham, J. H. R. Washington, A. P. Powers, N. Nims, S. Woodward, S. B. Hunter, J. Bailey, Y. Colbert, W. Lunday, E. Davis, A. Comer, R. A. L. Atkinson, J. B. Wiley, B. H. Rutherford,

109. The Macon Guide, 1939.
110. Supplement: Macon News, July, 1929.
111. Supplement: Macon News, July, 1929.

W. Brazeal, W. S. Holt, J. B. Ross, C. W. Raines, R. Bivins, Charles Thompson, and H. Newsom. Ex-Governor Moseley, of Florida, was named president of the convention, and other officers elected included two vice-presidents, Nathan Bass and J. Knowles, from Georgia.

At the same time that this convention was being held, and lasting through the week, was the first meeting in Macon of the Georgia Agricultural Fair. It was a gala week in Macon and citizens from ten states enjoyed the gay and exciting activities. It was estimated that between 18,000 and 20,000 persons attended the Fair during the three days that it lasted.[112] This Fair was said to have originated in a meeting of about sixty gentlemen who met at Stone Mountain in 1846. Each paid $1.00, made a premium list commensurate with the fund, and appointed a meeting and Fair twelve months thereafter which took place in a nine pin alley near the mountain. At the first meeting for organization, two Jacks, the property of D. W. Graves, deceased, were the only articles exhibited. From this small beginning, an institution grew which became more and more popular and meaningful with the passing of each year. A group of Macon citizens under the leadership of George M. Logan posted an advance sum of $4,000 which enabled them to bring the Fair to this city.

Commenting on this affair, a November issue of the Georgia Journal and Messenger, stated: "The great fair is over, and it is lean praise of what we actually witnessed to say that it surpassed in every respect the expectations of those engaged in getting it up, and of its friends generally. Indeed, the great body of intelligent visitors were completely overwhelmed with astonishment at the results of the exhibition, whether regarded in the great variety of useful and beautiful articles displayed, the extent of the preparation for the exhibit, or the number of visitors who attended."

Concerning the Fair and its relationship to Macon, the following article, written by one of the pioneer citizens of the state, headed "Macon—The Fair" was published in the Georgia Journal and Messenger, October 29, 1851:

"In 1819, I was attracted to Fort Hawkins by the assembling of the Creeks in the neighborhood to receive the annuity due them from the Government of the United States. David Brydie Mitchell, a Scotchman by birth, who had been Governor of the State, was then Indian Agent. On the evening of my arrival, I saw the Big Warrior, the most striking specimen of Indian greatness, the Little Prince, the speaker of the tribe, and its greater orator, and General McIntosh, its most gallant Chief. They were in consultation with the Agent about the affairs of their people.

112. Georgia Journal and Messenger, October, 1851.

"On the morning of the next day, I crossed the Ocmulgee River, and went into the encampment of the Indian people, who had assembled to be fed by the Government and receive their share of the annuity. It was in a forest of tall spreading trees which covered the hills and valleys along the river. There was no undergrowth to mar the beauty of the landscape. Many thousands of Indians were standing, or squatted, in little groups around fires which the coldness of the morning made necessary for comfort.

"I was invited to take breakfast with the family of the Little Prince. The speaker was employed in his official duty of getting together the chiefs for a council to be held during the day. He could not, therefore, be present with his guests. His wives were engaged in cooking when I walked up to the place pointed out as the Little Prince's fire. The bed on which the great orator slept was close by, — not made up. It consisted of a pile of leaves covered over with skins, and only wide enough for a single person. Whilst I and several others were around the food set before us, getting at it as best we could with our fingers and knives, a deer was seen bounding through the groups. Every Indian was immediately upon his feet. They gave such a yell as will never again reverberate along the banks of the Ocmulgee.

"Whilst I was in the encampment, standing on the bank, I saw several logs floating on the river, the middle of which had been scooped out so as to make them hollow. They were called canoes, and were fastened by grape vines to snags or trees on the water's edge. An Indian occasionally got into one of them, seated himself on the hind end, and with a board made small at one part for the grasp of the hand, and at the other broad to press against the water, paddled himself across the river, along whose current steamboats are now moving, as if by magic.

"The big warrior, at this meeting of the chiefs, wore a coarse, dirty, cotton wrapper. An eagle's, or other long feather, hung from the heads of many of the young braves, as they stood or stalked about. Strings of colored beads were around the necks of the squaws. Every head was bare and a moccasin was on every foot.

"The Indians, their encampment, the bounding deer, and fearful yell, has been brought distinctly to my imagination by the account of the Agricultural Fair proposed to be held at the same place. The dress, looks, and manners of the Indian chiefs and squaws were very different from what will be exhibited by the gentlemen and ladies who will be assembled at the Fair. The place where the Indian encampment was has undergone a wonderful change in thirty-two years. It is probable that not one tree which stood upon the hills and in those valleys when I saw them, now remain. Warehouses, bank houses,

churches, colleges, splendid dwelling houses, shops of business and industry, — now stand where trees then stood.

"Our British ancestors, in times long past by, used to hold Fairs in every precinct. The people went to them to barter what they had for what they wanted, to get drunk, bruise each other's faces with their fists, and break each other's heads with their cudgels. What a contrast between the fighting, bartering Fairs of Old England and those of Young Georgia, where the beauty and refinement of the ladies vie with the science and skill of the gentlemen; the famous blooded and finely formed animals of the farmer, with the well made tools of the mechanic; the productions of the agriculturists, with the fabrics of the manufacturer; and where crowds of the courteous and the thinking control the rudeness of the uncultivated.

"The object of the Georgia Fair is to improve agriculture, encourage the arts, extend knowledge, and expand social feelings. They tend to give to many who would otherwise be careless of their country's good, interest in the thought, 'this is my own, my native land'."

Macon had a total of fifteen practicing physicians at the end of the year, 1851. In order to refute various reports that an epidemic of smallpox existed in the city, they published notice in a November issue of the Georgia Journal and Messenger that these rumors were without foundation. There was one case of the disease in Macon at the time, that being Simri Rose, who subsequently recovered, but his house was in a retired part of the city, and was strictly guarded day and night. Names of practicing physicians in Macon at that time were Thomas R. Lamar, John O'Leary, M. A. Franklin, C. J. Roosevelt, Charles Thompson, A. Pye, H. K. Green, C. F. Nottingham, R. B. Nesbit, W. T. Lightfoot, W. H. Banks, G. Harrison, James L. Fish, J. R. Boon, and James M. Green.

During December, an extensive sale of city lots took place. On the tenth of that month, the sale commenced at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at the Poor House near the Female College, and many fine parcels of land were purchased by local citizens.

The city enjoyed a well-rounded program of theatrical performances during the year. Almost every month was filled with some type of entertainment. In January, the Hungarian Musical Society presented a Grand Concert in vocal and instrumental music at Concert Hall. Several pieces were rendered in bell harmony, a total of fifty-six bells being utilized. Welch, Nathan & Company's National Circus performed in February. General Tom Thumb, a new midget, 18 years old, weighing 15 pounds and standing only 28 inches in height, also appeared at Concert Hall. He had recently been received by Queen Victoria and the crowned heads of Europe. During the same month, Dr. Hendree presented scenes from Europe and Asia and comic views

for children at Concert Hall. The tragedy, "Richard, The Third", was presented by a Mr. Linden during the month of April. In May, Mr. Spencer presented a demonstration connected with the philosophy of the mind, illustrating ancient and modern magic sorcery and witchcraft, as well as mesmerism. A Diorama of the World's Fair and Mr. Andrieu's dissolving views of the "Crystal Palace" were shown during June. A Grand Terpsichorean Concert in bloomer costume was presented by the Misses Hill, assisted by their brother, Master J. Hill, the celebrated violinist, at the Concert Hall during August. A variety of dances such as the Italian dance, the waltz, and the polka were given. The Watkins Theatrical Troupe, a stock company of outstanding performers selected from the principal theaters in the North, presented a series of plays during October, which included "The Drunkard", "All That Glitters is Not Gold", "Heart of the World", and "Maline's Noblemen". Campbell's Minstrels appeared at the Floyd House Saloon during October and November, and the celebrated Espinosa Ballet Troupe concluded the year's attractions with a performance at the same place in November.

1852

Edward L. Strohecker was elected Mayor of the city in the annual election which took place on January 7, 1852. Councilmen included L. N. Whittle, John L. Jones, R. H. Hardaway, E. E. Brown, E. J. Johnston, William T. Mix, George Patten, and A. G. Bostick. During this year, the time of holding city elections was changed from January to December, which necessitated a second regular city election to be held in December. The year, 1852, is unique in that it is the only one on record during which two regular City Elections have been held during the same year.[113]

The month of January, 1852, was one of the coldest periods since the winter of 1835. Freezing temperatures were recorded throughout the month, and on the 14th of January, the thermometer dropped to zero. It was during this frigid period that Macon experienced one of her costliest and most destructive fires to date. On January 19, a fire originated in a store on the west side of Cherry Street, near Second, and swept the entire block. Eighteen stores, in addition to stables, storage houses, and outbuildings were completely destroyed. The only two buildings in the entire square which escaped the ravages of the fire were the brick building, formerly owned and occupied as a residence by Major James Smith, at the corner of Second and Poplar Streets, and the warehouse of Hardeman and Hardeman, corner of Poplar and Third, which contained 6,000 bales of cotton at the time. The night was extremely cold, and the water froze in the hose of the

113. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, City Clerk.

fire-engines. The volunteer firemen were also handicapped by a great shortage of fire-fighting materials.

During this month, the State Legislature enacted a bill to provide for the incorporation and endowment of the "Georgia Academy for the Education of the Blind" in Macon, and made an appropriation for the years 1852 and 1853 of $5,000. At that time, the Academy occupied a building at the corner of Mulberry and Third Streets. However, two years later, the trustees secured $10,000 from the State Treasury and a new building was provided on College Street.

On February 20th, one of Macon's oldest citizens, Eleazer McCall, passed away. He had been located at Fort Hawkins before the city of Macon was laid out, and had been a resident of the city or immediate vicinity since 1819. He was the first Justice of the Peace to be elected in East Macon when the county was originally organized. He was an active member of the Masonic Fraternity, being a charter member of Macon Lodge No. 5 and a past Worshipful Master of this group. During the Creek War, he was also Captain of the Bibb Cavalry in its campaign against the Creeks. Appropriate honors were paid him by the various organizations of the city and he was interred on February 21st at the burial ground on Fort Hill.[114]

The new Episcopal Church in this city was completed on May 2nd. At an impressive consecration service, which was attended by overflowing crowds, the Rev. Bishop Elliott consecrated the new building, which was thereafter known as Christ Church.

During the summer of 1852, the last two members of the great triumvirate of statesmen in the Senate who had debated the Omnibus Bill in the Compromise of 1850, passed away. On June 29th, Henry Clay died in Washington, having passed his seventy-fifth anniversary. On Ocober 23rd, at his residence at Marchfield, Massachusetts, the death of Daniel Webster occurred. John C. Calhoun, the other member of this great trio, had previously expired in 1850. Macon papers were draped in mourning following each of these deaths, and appropriate ceremonies were held paying the city's respects to the memory of these great Americans. On May 14th, Henry Wood and G. B. Roberts were elected to City Council, succeeding E. E. Brown and A. G. Bostick, resigned.

Another damaging fire occurred during the early part of the summer, originating in a store on Third Street. Although its progress was arrested by blowing up a building on the Cherry Street alley, eight buildings were destroyed.

The first annual Fair of the Mechanics and Manufactural Institute of the State of Georgia was held in Macon in connection with the Georgia Agricultural Fair, commencing on October 18th and con-

114. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

tinuing for a week. Robert Findlay and E. J. Johnston were in charge of the local arrangements.

William Saunders Scarborough, negro scholar, educator, and writer, was born in Macon during the year 1852. The son of a free father and a slave mother, he was prohibited by Georgia's slave laws from learning to read and had to gain his early education surreptitiously from a white friend. After attending public schools in Macon, he was able to continue his studies at Oberlin College in Ohio. Following his graduation he returned to Macon to teach, but in 1877, was appointed professor of classical languages at Wilberforce University, Ohio, of which he became president in 1908. He wrote many articles on negro folklore and the problems of his race. He also wrote a textbook, "First Lessons in Greek" and translated "The Birds of Aristophanes" into English.[115]

Macon's commercial entertainment during the year began with Johnson & Company's People's Circus in January and Spalding & Roger's North American Circus in February. During February, also, the celebrated Campanalogions or Swiss bell ringers with Herr Franz Stroepel performing on wood and straw instruments presented a musical festival at Concert Hall. During the week of March 3rd, the annual spring horse races were held at the Central Race Course. The report of the secretary showed "that although the weather was unfavorable the entire week, attendance was large, and the good order which prevailed throughout the races was a subject of general congratulations, not a drunken or unruly man having been seen on the track". The Derwort Family offered a program of musical soirees on April 6th at Concert Hall. During May, Mrs. H. Lewis presented a series of entertainments which featured Madame Anna Bishop, outstanding feminine vocalist. The Fall Sweepstake Races were held over the Central Race Course during the week of October 14th. The Corncross Troupe with a program of singing and dancing, and the presentation of a musical play "A Yankee Courtship", enjoyed the theatrical spotlight during November. The year's amusement activities were brought to a close in December with the performance at Concert Hall of Kunkel's Nightingale Opera Troupe of Philadelphia portraying phases of African Life in song, dance, and burlesque.

The second regular City Election of 1852 took place on December 15th with the re-election of Edward L. Strohecker, Mayor, and the following Councilmen: Thomas J. Shinholser, L. N. Whittle, Pulaski S. Holt, A. M. Smith, R. B. Clayton, George W. Adams, O. F. Adams, and Edward J. Johnston.

115. The Macon Guide, 1939.

1853

The year, 1853, was ushered in by the deaths of two prominent Macon citizens. On January 2nd, General Joseph Bennett was killed in a fall from a two-story building on Third Street. General Bennett was a native of New York and had come to Macon in 1823 bringing one of the first stocks of goods ever offered in this city. He was later elected Brigadier General of the Macon Brigade, and also a member of the State Legislature from Bibb County.

The death of Samuel J. Ray occurred on January 6th. He was co-editor of the *Georgia Telegraph* with Thomas L. Ross. For many years he was sole editor of the *Telegraph,* and was an uncompromising advocate of Democracy and State Rights. He was interred with military honors by the Floyd Rifles, of which he was a member.

During January, announcement was made that Messrs. Sterling Lanier and Son had withdrawn from the Lanier House. The new managers of this well known establishment were Messrs. Scott and Dibble.

At the hour of midnight or a little later on January 5th, the residence of the Mayor, Dr. E. L. Strohecker, was set on fire and burned to the ground. The property, which belonged to a Mrs. Wood, was insured for $1,800 which almost covered the loss. Concerning the fire, an extract is cited from the Georgia Citizen, January 8, 1853: "Incendiarism is the order of the day, or rather of the night, in our city. Several attempts have recently been made to fire the town. The city authorities will, we hope, learn by and by that vigilance in guarding the city from the depredations of loafers and scoundrels and greater preparation to protect the property of the people from damage by fire are cardinal virtues in their eyes, and ought to be the first duties of an enlightened Board of Aldermen. The cry is now not 'gas, gas', but 'water, water'. Will the cry be heeded?"

A meeting of citizens of Bibb County was held at the Court House in Macon on February 5th to appoint delegates to the convention for the suppression of the liquor traffic, to be held in Atlanta February 22nd. The Hon. A. E. Ernest was elected chairman and the Rev. E. H. Myers, secretary. After adoption of appropriate resolutions condemning the evils of intoxicating beverages, the following delegates were named to attend the convention: William R. Parker, James Findlay, F. A. Brewer, W. S. Williford, G. W. Adams, A. E. Ernest, Peter Solomon, S. Landrum, E. H. Myers, Stephen Woodard, L. F. W. Andrews, Simri Rose, B. F. Griffin, R. L. Gilbert, and M. E. Rylander.

In March, the Macon Gas Light Company was organized. There had been considerable demand for the formation of such a company in the city, and in order to encourage its organization, the City Council subscribed $10,000 worth of stock. The entire capital stock of the

company was set at $42,000. Officers elected included A. J. White, president, secretary, and treasurer; and the following directors: James A. Nisbet, E. L. Strohecker, Lewis P. Strong, and George W. Adams. It was further agreed that the contractors, Perdicara and Hoy, would lay four miles of pipe along the main streets and that gas would be ready for distribution by October 1st. Provisions were made for the placing of sixty public lights in the business and residential sections.[116]

A beautiful gold medal was executed and forwarded in April to Benson A. English, the Infant Drummer, as a present from the Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of Macon. Young English, who was born in Macon, was highly regarded in the musical field throughout this country and Europe. The medal, which was solid gold, was 3 inches long and 2½ inches wide; irregular, oblong shape, with projecting corners and a circular disc. On one side were two flags of the Union crossing each other and the inscription: "Presented by the Mayor, Aldermen, and citizens of Macon to the INFANT DRUMMER, who was born in our city, as a token of our appreciation of his native genius and extraordinary merit. Signed: E. L. Strohecker, Mayor." On the other side of the medal were the coat of arms of the United States and Georgia with a drum between.[117]

Mayor Strohecker resigned from his office as head of the city government during April, and was succeeded for the remainder of the year by George T. Rogers.[118]

A large meeting of the citizens of Macon was held at the Council Chamber on May 18th to take into consideration the location of the common depot provided for in the contract between the City of Macon on the one part and the Central, South-Western, and Macon and Western Railroad Companies on the other part in January, 1851, and to take such action as might seem proper and necessary. J. H. R. Washington was elected chairman and Cliff Anderson, secretary. The object of the meeting was explained and R. S. Lanier addressed the group. Among the resolutions adopted was one instructing the City Council to adopt immediate measures to compel the railroads to fulfill the contract, or to deprive them of all privileges which the contract conferred.

Captain Alexander Scott, well known and highly respected citizen of Macon, died suddenly on June 1st while on a business trip to New York. Although a native of Maryland, Captain Scott had resided in Georgia for over fifteen years and was widely known as a man of public spirit and rare energy. During the Mexican War, he received a Captain's commission and served with the 13th Infantry. At the time of his death, he was one of the proprietors of the Lanier House.

116. Georgia Telegraph, March, 1853.
117. Ga. Citizen, April, 1853.
118. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier.

The month of July was marked by a great surge of building activity in the city. An issue of the *Georgia Journal and Telegraph* during that month stated: "At no time since the settlement of Macon, have we observed a greater degree of houses going up. On Cherry and Third, James A. Ralston is erecting a splendid range of brick buildings. Farther up, we notice preparations for a new City Hall. On Second Street, the Baptist congregation are commencing the erection of a new and elegant church. We understand, also, that the Presbyterians are about to build a splendid church at the corner of Mulberry and First."

The pupils of Professor E. Grimme gave a concert during the month which brought the following comments from the *Georgia Citizen*: "The young ladies did themselves and their instructors credit by their vocalization as well as their performance on the piano. Music furnished on this occasion by Miss Cotton, Miss Wiley, and Miss Bond was superior to much of that heard from traveling musical celebrities of world-wide renown".

Another one of Macon's pioneer citizens, James A. White, died during August. Widely known in Central Georgia, he was the commanding Colonel of the 13th Regiment during the Mexican War.

Flood conditions prevailed during the third week in September, causing derailment of trains and the interruption of mail. Extensive damage to crops and cattle was also suffered. Because of the heavy rains, one of the abutments of the bridge crossing Walnut Creek gave way, and the Central Railroad engine was thrown off the track, drawing the train along the timbers of the bridge, several of which penetrated the cars. A passenger by the name of Donohoe was crushed by one of the timbers and died from the accident. He was on his way to Macon to accept employment at the Lanier House.[119]

Macon residents were gravely concerned regarding the yellow fever epidemic in New Orleans. The latest account from that city during September reported over 200 deaths in the preceding twenty-four hour period from this disease. The *Georgia Citizen,* September, 1853, reported that from May 22nd to September 24th, 10,751 interments had taken place in New Orleans, of which 8,103 were from yellow fever. During that period, the highest number of deaths per day was 692; the lowest, twelve.

In October, a Macon planter, B. F. Taylor, won the premium of a $50 silver pitcher at the Augusta Fair for the best yield of corn in Georgia from bottom land. His yield was 80½ bushels to the acre, grown on his Ocmulgee Plantation, three miles below Macon.[120]

Thomas King, Sr., one of the oldest and most esteemed citizens of Macon, died in November. He had been a resident of Macon over

119. Georgia Telegraph, September, 1853.
120. Georgia Citizen, October, 1853.

twenty years and represented this county in the state legislature. During December, Colonel Robert A. L. Atkinson died. He was a native of Jefferson County but had lived in Macon for more than ten years. He frequently represented our county in the state legislature, and was actively associated with the civic and business affairs of this city.

On December 12th, a concert was given by the young ladies of the Presbyterian choir, at which time the performance of Professor Guttenberger and his daughter on the violin drew special attention and much praise.

The annual City Election took place on the 14th of December and Edward L. Strohecker was returned to the office of Mayor. Elected to serve with him on the City Council were William T. Mix, George W. Ross, C. P. Levy, Pulaski S. Holt, Methvin S. Thomson, Bazil A. Wise, James B. Ayres, and George T. Rogers.

Entertainment for the year, 1853, included a varied list of programs, some of which were headed by outstanding performers. During January, the Fakir of Swa gave a program of magic, wizardry, and ventriloquism at Concert Hall. In February, the renowned and astounding Infant Drummer, Macon's own, entertained the home folks. Two circuses also performed in the city during this month. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Crisp's celebrated company presented a musical program at the Floyd House Saloon during March which featured the performance of Madame Anna Bishop, assisted by Signor Severa Sirini. Madame Emma G. Bostwick offered A Grand Concert during the same month at Concert Hall with Henry Appy, the violinist; Julius Scide, solo flutist; and Miss Annie Oliver, nine-year-old song-bird. In October, Campbell's Minstrels performed. The Georgia Academy for the Blind presented a musical concert and exhibition at Concert Hall in November. Two circuses, and the performance by the Kunkel's Troupe of Melodists in December at Concert Hall rounded out the year's entertainment.

Throughout the year, 1853, much emphasis was placed upon the organization of an effective Fire Department. Macon had suffered severe losses from destructive fires. Her fire engines and other equipment were totally inadequate. The water supply was a big problem. Several measures were passed by City Council during the year which laid the groundwork for the amelioration of this problem.

1 8 5 4

A bitter struggle between the Democrats and Know Nothings, the latter known as the American Party in Macon, featured the beginning of the year, 1854. The County Election in January was hotly contested by both groups and there was much political action. In a very close vote, the Democrats emerged victorious. Elected to office of



The Georgia State Farmer's Market, which occupies the Old Findlay Foundry Site, one of first iron works in Georgia; established 1854.
Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones.

Sheriff, Cicero Tharp; Clerk of Superior Court, Henry S. Ross; Clerk of Inferior Court, E. G. Jeffers; Tax Receiver, John C. Johnson; Tax Collector, R. A. Cain; Coroner, Jesse Morris; and County Surveyor, William Wood.

A report of the Macon & Western Railroad showed a tremendous increase in business during the preceding five years. A new line recently opened up beween Nashville and Chattanooga produced heavy freight hauls on the Macon and Western Road. On one day in January, the entire train was loaded with freight from Nashville to Macon. Statistics showed that this city was fast becoming the most prominent depot for the distribution of Tennessee products in Georgia. The new railroads were also helping Atlanta, which was growing steadily during this period.[121]

In order to equip the railroads, many ironworks were springing up. One of the first of these was founded in Macon during the year by Robert Findlay, engineer of the first Macon train, and the Schofield Iron Works was established soon afterward.[122]

121. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
122. The Macon Guide, 1939.

A public meeting of the citizens of Macon was held on January 14th to protest a bill which had just been introduced in the state legislature. This bill authorized the consolidation of the Macon & Western and the Central Railroad Companies. Mayor Strohecker was elected chairman and Simri Rose secretary of the gathering. A committee composed of L. N. Whittle, J. B. Lamar, George Patten, Peter Solomon, and Thomas C. Nisbet was appointed to report business for the action of the group. The committee retired and upon returning reported that the consolidation or amalgamation of the two roads would submit the commerce and interests of Macon to the control of a monopoly, and would permit it to discriminate in the charges and transportation of freight against the city. Whereupon, the following resolution was adopted: Resolved "That our Senator and Representatives are requested to oppose the passage of any measure, the object of which may be to consolidate and unite the Central Railroad with any one or more railroads coming into Macon under one and the same charter; and that they urge the passage of a law repealing all acts now in force allowing the Central or any other railroad company to lease other roads or to use and work them with their own." A compromise was afterwards effected which allowed the connection of the two roads, but provided the payment by them to the City of Macon of an annual sum of $5,000 for this privilege.[123]

The performance of the celebrated violinist, Ole Bull, was by far the major attraction of interest in Macon during February, 1854. Along with Maurice Strakosch, the great pianist, and Signorina Adelina Patti, renowned soloist, this musical troupe was one of the most popular musical attractions in America. Ole Bull, a Norwegian, was heralded as the genius of the century, and it was generally agreed that his performance on the violin came nearer approaching the immortal Paganini than any other. In all the great cities, excitement to hear him was intense, and thousands were turned away because of the lack of seating space. The entire proceeds of the concerts given by Ole Bull in America were pledged to the establishment of a Norwegian Colony in this country, foundations of which had already been laid by Ole Bull in Northern Pennsylvania.[124] Concerning his appearance in this city, the *Georgia Telegraph*, January 31, 1854 states: "The distinguished violinist, Ole Bull, accompanied by the great pianist, Maurice Strakosch, and the noted vocalist, Adelina Patti, will present a farewell performance in Macon tomorrow evening. A commendatory notice could do these talented performers little good. Their names alone are sufficient to fill the hall upon the evening for which they are announced. Not to have heard Ole Bull will be a sin in the fashionable world, which can with great difficulty be expiated."

123. Supplement: The Macon News, July, 1929.
124. Georgia Citizen, February, 1854.

The *Georgia Citizen* of February 2nd adds: "The concert hall of Ole Bull last evening was attended by one of the most brilliant assemblages of the elite of the city and environments that ever gathered at Concert Hall. The circus being in full blast in another part of town, there were no disturbers of the peace to annoy the lovers of sweet sounds of music on the ears."

A bill to move the state capitol to Macon passed the House of Representatives in February of this year. In a vote taken on February 9th, it was found that a tie existed in the House, whereupon Speaker Ward gave his vote in favor of moving to Macon. There was much speculation as to whether the Senate would concur, and, in the event that it did, it was rumored that the Governor had pledged to veto the measure.

On March 14th, the Macon wharves were enlivened by the arrival of two steamers laden with goods for the city and intermediate landings which had come from Savannah via Altamaha and Ocmulgee Rivers. One was the "Charles Hartridge" with Captain William Taylor in charge; the other the "H. L. Cook", owned by J. S. Hoge of Macon. Passage from Macon to Savannah at this time required between four and five days, and rates by water were under those of the railroad. There was a difference of 15 cents per hundred on the freight of cotton down the river and 20 to 40 cents up the river.[125]

On April 17th, another destructive fire occurred which swept the buildings in the block located on the southeast corner of Mulberry and Third Streets. Two new fire-engines, recently purchased by the City Council, were baptized at this fire, and were of great assistance in preventing the flames from further spreading.

Ex-President Millard Fillmore honored the city with a visit on the 20th of April. Accompanied by the Secretary of the Navy, John P. Kennedy, Mr. Fillmore was met on the Muscogee Road by a group of citizens and escorted to the city limits, where the party was joined by the military and a large procession. He was then placed in a carriage drawn by six splendid gray horses and the long procession moved through the city to the Lanier House. The Hon. Eugenius A. Nisbet, in the presence of a large multitude, then officially welcomed him to the city in an eloquent address.

The former president expressed appreciation for the cordiality and enthusiasm which had been shown him. He spoke of his administration and of the prominent events which characterized it. In explaining his support for the famous Compromise of 1850, he claimed for himself simply an honest purpose and a sincere desire to administer the government according to the constitution and the laws of the land. He mentioned that there was one feature of this settlement, the fugi-

125. Georgia Telegraph, 1854.

tive slave law, which was particularly distasteful to the people of the North. He knew that he was jeopardizing his political future when he signed the bill. But the provisions of the constitution, which he had sworn to carry out and defend, were incorporated in this bill. He stated that he knew that there were other features in the measure which perhaps were distasteful to the South, but that the bill was made in order to give peace and quiet to a country tense with factionalism. He concluded that if the discharge of that duty involved sacrifice, he had cheerfully made it, and was amply compensated for it, by the cordial welcome he had received in Macon.

Mr. Fillmore was followed by Mr. Kennedy, who gave a lively speech full of pleasant humor, which was very complimentary to the State of Georgia and in particular, to the ladies, who he declared were the ruling power in this state. His talk produced much laughter and applause, and was well received. A grand soiree was given to the distinguished guests in the evening at the Lanier House, where the beauty of the city congregated. Mr. Fillmore, a widower, was very popular with the ladies, and made a fine appearance with his good looks, pleasing manner, and gallant gestures.[126]

George W. Towns, ex-Governor of Georgia, died at his residence in this city on July 15th. A native of Wilkes County, he had been active in the political affairs of this state for over twenty-five years. He frequently served in the state legislature; was elected three times to Congress; and was twice elected as Governor of Georgia. He was buried on the 17th of July, a large concourse of citizens, the military, and fire companies attending the remains to Rose Hill Cemetery.

The summer of 1854 was unusually hot. During the month of August, the thermometer constantly remained in the high nineties, and on several occasions it ranged from 100 to 103 degrees. This period was characterized by a serious epidemic of yellow fever in Savannah. For the week ending September 9th, a total of 305 deaths from this disease had occurred in that city. Several citizens of Macon visiting or temporarily residing in Savannah were included among the deceased. Judge W. Harris was among these.[127]

Macon became a place of refuge for many of the families along the seaboard. Some members brought the disease with them and died here. A bulletin from Mayor Strohecker's office on September 25th reported two deaths in Macon from the disease, — McSwain, a conductor on the Central Railroad, and Doyle, an Irishman from Charleston. Both came here with fever. There were often a dozen strangers sick with the disease in Macon, who arrived here with it. Yet, the city remained healthy during the entire summer, and the fever did not

126. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
127. Georgia Telegraph, September, 1854.

develop into an epidemic here. The citizens of Macon united with the City Council in extending aid to the sufferers, and ample provisions and money were sent to Savannah.

During October, a murder took place which created considerable interest in the city and county. Peter Curry, son of one of Macon's oldest citizens, received twenty-four stabs from the hands of one Luke Nowell, which resulted in his death. The affair occurred in the Warrior district at night at a "corn shucking" party, and is reported to have been started in a dispute concerning a girl. Both men were alleged to have been intoxicated at the time of the altercation.[128]

The city was visited by another destructive conflagration during the fall when more than half the block fronting Mulberry Street between Second and Third was destroyed. Most of the buildings were of wooden structure, and included Washington Hall, one of the landmarks of the city. Upon its ruins, was soon built the handsome Washington Block, which still remains at the corner of Mulberry and Second.

November 22nd was proclaimed by the Governor of Georgia as Thanksgiving Day. Since Macon had so miracuously escaped the ravages of yellow fever, Mayor Strohecker issued a proclamation simultaneously with the Governor, appointing the same day to be specially observed. As the Synod of Georgia was in session at the Presbyterian Church, that organization supplied all of the pulpits in the city, and the day was religiously observed.[129]

A general passenger depot for the accommodation of trains of all the railroads in Macon was completed in December. Located at the corner of Fourth and Plum Streets, it presented a handsome appearance and represented an investment of $100,000. Opposite the depot was Brown's Hotel, which was completed at the same time. This hotel was built by and named for Eliphalet E. Brown, and for many years was one of the most modern and important hotels in the southeast. It was visited by many prominent people, and was often the scene of great political activity on the part of political leaders and those high in the affairs of state. Following the War Between the States, it was enlarged. In 1878, it was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt and reopened again during the same year.[130]

In addition to the appearance of Ole Bull and the artists accompanying him in February, Macon's amusement and theatrical calendar for the year 1854 included the appearance in March of Madame Neve, the celebrated astrologist, who held consultations daily at the Macon House on First Street, opposite the Baptist Church; the William H. Crisp Company in April featuring the eminent tragedienne, Miss Eliz Logan; Ned Davis' Olio Minstrels featuring Master Adams, the

128. Georgia Telegraph, October, 1854.
129. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
130. Supplement: Macon News, July, 1929.

ballad singer; the Bunyan Tableaux consisting of sixty magnificent scenes with figures of life size illustrations of the Pilgrim's Progress; the gymnasium and zoological arena of A. Turner & Company; Campbell's Original Minstrels; two circuses of the Spalding and Rogers Company; and another amateur concert by the young ladies and gentlemen of Macon under Professor Grimme at Concert Hall for the benefit of the Presbyterian Church building fund.

On December 13, Benjamin F. Ross was elected Mayor of Macon and the following were named members of the City Council: John L. Jones, A. J. White, W. S. Williford, R. B. Clayton, George W. Adams, H. M. North, James B. Ayres, and W. C. Bandy. The latter subsequently resigned and was succeeded by William T. Massey.

1855

Two disastrous fires; the death of several prominent citizens; and heated political action between the Democrat and Know-Nothing parties featured the year, 1855, in Macon's history.

The death of David J. Davis occurred on February 23rd. He was one of the city's oldest citizens and had served as sheriff of Bibb county for ten years. He was much loved in the community and had many friends. He was often referred to as a man of "open heart and open hand".[131]

An organized gang of burglars was very active in the city during February and broke into the homes of a number of prominent citizens. Among the homes broken into and entered were those of Dr. Robert Collins, E. Kirkland, John Hoge, and Stephen Collins.

Local people were shocked by the news that on March 24th, the town of Sandersville was visited by a destructive fire which consumed a great part of the town. Immediate assistance was dispatched to relieve the citizens of that community who were hardest hit by this holocaust.

Six days later, a group of Maconites were the victims of a serious conflagration which swept the entire block of Mulberry between Third and Fourth Streets. The fire broke out at 3:00 o'clock in the morning in a stable belonging to J. S. Hutton in the alley between Third and Fourth. There was a high wind at the time, which spread the flames to Mulberry and swept the entire block, together with two buildings on Fourth Street, near Cherry. For lack of water, the city fire department was unable to arrest the progress of the flames, and it was with great difficulty that the Floyd House and the Market House were saved. The dwelling of J. A. Knight was in grave danger, and was twice set on fire but extinguished. Damages of the fire included Mr. Chains' dwelling house; Mr. Tobins' dwelling house; A.

131. Georgia Telegraph, February, 1855.

Richards' workshop and store; W. T. Melanye's dwelling; J. Dacy's dwelling; E. E. Brown's store and dwelling; D. Meath's dwelling. It was believed that the fire was the work of incendiaries. About half of the loss was covered by insurance.[132] A negro slave by the name of "Lit" Carhart, also known as "Lit" Young, was credited with helping to save the Floyd House and Market House during the height of the fire. For the daring and unusual efforts which he exerted, he was made an honorary member of Protection Fire Company No. 1. At the following meeting of City Council, he was presented a gift of $10 as reward for his services in helping to prevent the spread of the fire.[133]

At a meeting of the pew-holders of Christ Church held on Easter, April 9th, the following church officers were elected: N. C. Munroe and James M. Green, wardens; James Rea, L. N. Whittle, W. S. Williford, Charles A. Ells, and J. S. Sutton, vestrymen.

The death of Joseph Smith, one of the oldest residents of Macon both in point of time and age, occurred in April. He was 87 years old, and was known by the familiar appellation of "Father Smith."

On May 7th, the Hon. Walter T. Colquitt, one of the outstanding citizens of Georgia, died at the home of William Ross, of this city. He held many positions of trust and public office during his life, including Judge of the Superior Court; Representative in Congress; and Senator of the United States.

Keen political rivalry continued between the Democrat and Know-Nothing Parties and during the month of May, the Democratic Party of Bibb County held a convention at which they denounced the secret policies of the Know-Nothings and affirmed the principles of state rights. Appropriate resolutions were drawn by P. Tracy, John B. Lamar, O. A. Lochrane, James A. Nisbet, Green Wilder, and W. K. DeGraffenried.

A report of the Grand Jury of June 19th disclosed that the public roads and bridges of the county were generally in good condition with the exception of the Federal Road near Tobesofkee Creek and the River Road in the upper part of the county. Repairs were recommended on the Court House and on the bridge crossing Walnut Creek.

The trustees of the Bibb County Academy reported a balance on hand of $5,283.82. The attendance report indicated seventy-five scholars in the Male Department and twenty-five in the Female Department of the school.[134]

An unusual accident occurred in the city on June 13th. The residence of Major N. H. Beale was set on fire by a flying kite with a lantern attached to it. The kite dived on the roof of the building, igniting it, and causing a total loss.

132. Georgia Telegraph, March, 1855.
133. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
134. Georgia Telegraph, June, 1855.

On August 5th, the death of L. O. Reynolds, President of the South-Western Railroad Company, was announced. He was succeeded by R. R. Cuyler, President of the Central Railroad. The report of George Adams, Superintendent, relative to the condition of the road showed that the total length of operation in 1855 was ninety-two miles, and that 216,516 passengers had been carried on the road during its four years of operation. The road claimed a safety record equalled by none. Only one person out of this great number had been injured, and that was due to the individual's own carelessness.[135]

An unusual honor was conferred upon a negro, the second during the year in Macon, in August. Solomon Humphries, a free negro, age 54, died in this city on August 8th. He was a resident of Macon from its earliest settlement, and was a prosperous merchant and cotton dealer for many years. He was greatly respected by Macon merchants and those in Savannah, Charleston, and New York with whom he did business. His funeral oration was delivered by the Rev. Robert L. Breck of the Presbyterian Church, of which he was a member, and the oldest merchants of the city attended the services in a body.[136]

Political feeling between the Democrats and Know-Nothings was unusually tense during the election campaign in September and October. A heated contest was carried on by both parties in which each denounced the principles of the other. The election resulted in a Democratic victory in the state, but Bibb County went into the ranks of the Know-Nothings. Three well-known Macon citizens died during this period. John H. Howard, known for his high moral standards and intellectual ability, died in September. On October 16th, the Rev. George H. Hancock, a professor at Wesleyan Female College, passed away. Rev. Hancock was very popular at the girls' school and had been an active minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years. On the same day, Joseph M. Napier, son of Leroy Napier, expired at the residence of his father in Vineville.

On November 3rd, the young ladies of the Presbyterian Church choir gave a musical presentation under the direction of Professor E. Grimme at Concert Hall, the receipts of which were donated to the church's building fund. Among the talented performers were the Misses Nisbet, Poe, Tracy, Carleton, Armstrong, Butler, Wiley, Leconte, and Mrs. Boykin. An extract from the Georgia Telegraph, dated November 6, 1855 states: "The concert given at Concert Hall, by the young ladies of the Presbyterian choir on last Friday night, will long be remembered with delight by all who had the pleasure of hearing our fair amateurs on that occasion. The fair performers were warmly greeted by one of the largest and most respected houses we have ever seen in Macon. Nor can we omit to notice the fluting of

135-136. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.



Birthplace of Sidney Lanier
Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones.

Master S. Lanier, a young gentleman of our city, whose performance was really admirable and very warmly applauded. On the whole, this concert was highly creditable not only to the skill and proficiency of the performers, but to the musical taste of our city, and we hope it is only one of a series of similar entertainments."

In November another disastrous fire ravaged the block of new buildings constructed by James A. Ralston at Cherry and Third. All of the buildings on the east side of Third to the warehouse of Hardeman and Sparks on Poplar Street were destroyed. The fire spread half-way down the block to Cherry Street, being arrested by a double brick wall dividing Ralston's property from that of W. T. Nelson. The alarm was given by the church bells and fire department, and members of the fire company made a gallant fight, but, as usual, lacked a sufficient supply of water. Property losses amounting to $100,000 were suffered by the following: Asher Ayres, W. W. Wagnon, George T. Rogers & Son, Magnetic Telegraph Company, W. T. Nelson, and Mr. Ralston.[137]

137. Georgia Telegraph, November, 1855.

An interesting case which was tried in the Superior Court during the fall session was that of Malinda Winn, through her guardian and next friend, Cicero A. Tharp, vs. The Macon and Western Railroad for damages caused by a collision of the locomotive of the railroad with a carriage containing Mrs. Winn with three children and a negro driver. Mrs. Winn sustained a fracture of the arm and the third child, the plaintiff in the case, sustained a very severe fracture of the skull from which she never completely recovered. The jury returned a verdict for $7,000 against the Railroad. Attorneys participating in the trial were S. T. Baily, Robert P. Trippe, and Edward D. Tracy for the Plaintiff, and E. A. and J. A. Nisbet, C. B. Cole, and E. C. Cabannis for the Defendant.

Harry Stillwell Edwards, who was destined to play such an important role in the literary life of the city, and the South, was born in Macon during the year, 1855.[138]

There was nothing lacking in the field of commercial entertainment in Macon during the year. Several panoramas were exhibited, one on the New Testament with an explanatory lecture by the Rev. Mr. Campbell of Tennessee; another on the Mirror of Creation and Deluge, brought to this city direct from Washington, where it had been exhibited nine weeks before the members of Congress. Campbell's Minstrels presented a show in January and October while Wood & Christy's Minstrels appeared during May. Colonel Richard's Great American Variety Show provided magic, music, and dancing; and McCallister, the Magician, added more along the magic line. In the theater, Mrs. Charles Howard, widely acclaimed for her talent in dramatics, appeared as Madelaine in the "Child of the Regiment". Two famous circuses performed in December.

Musical programs included the Peak Family, musical entertainers, with vocalists, germanium bell ringers, and performers on the harp, guitar, and cremonia; Tom Green, 6 year old blind negro pianist; Mrs. W. H. Crisp's Musical Company of performers; and a Christmas Festival featuring the Infant Drummer. Concerning the latter, the Georgia Citizen, Dec. 22nd, stated: "The Infant Drummer, the greatest musical prodigy of the age, will appear at Concert Hall for a Christmas program; whose extraordinary and astonishing performances stand unparalleled in the history of the world; will appear for three evenings only to show to the people of his native city that his natural gift for military music has been cultivated to a remarkable extent during his recent absence on a Northern tour which carried him into all of the leading cities in the East, Canada, and the Western states."

Benjaminn F. Ross was re-elected Mayor of the city in the annual election held on December 12, 1885. Councilmen elected to serve with

138. The Macon Guide, 1939.

him were J. L. Jones, Elijah Bond, A. G. Bostick, Thomas A. Harris, Henry L. Jewett, William R. Phillips, Lewis P. Strong, and H. M. North.

1856

The year 1856 began with two bad railroad accidents occurring near Macon. A passenger train on the South-Western Road ran over a steer at Tobesofkee Creek, and was thrown off the track. Engineer, William Cole, and fireman, James Hancock, were both killed. None of the passengers received serious injuries. A collision also took place between the down and up trains on the Columbus Road. Both were off schedule due to severe winter weather and crashed into each other. A train-hand was killed, and a passenger, Uriah Paulk, jumped out of the car upon the tracks and was killed. Several other passengers sustained injuries.[139]

Severe cold weather gripped the city as well as most of the nation throughout January and February. Heavy rains during the early part of January produced floods which caused considerable damage. On January 11th, a storm produced more than two inches of snow, which was followed by hail and rain that froze over the snow. Thousands of trees, which were the pride of the city, were either broken down or had branches torn off. The snow remained on the ground for several days, and the lanes, sidewalks, and roads were enlivened by the ringing of bells on many impromptu sleighs which were devised for the occasion. The winter everywhere was one of unparalleled severity. Accounts from the North reported harbors frozen up in Philadelphia and Baltimore; and New York was accessible to steamships only for sometime.

The fourth annual report of the Georgia Academy for the Blind showed eighteen pupils in attendance and an appropriation of $6,000 by the state legislature for the erection of a new building.

The election of officers of the Macon Y.M.C.A. was held on March 10th, which resulted in the following selection: Robert A. Smith, President; Sam Hunter, Jr., Vice-President; J. T. Calloway, Vice-President; J. S. Hutton, Vice-President; George A. Hardie, Secretary and Treasurer; John T. Nisbet, Corresponding Secretary; Leonard Little and U. Van Geison, Librarians.[140] The Y.M.C.A. was organized on a limited scale in 1845 by a Methodist minister but the first known records of this institution begin in 1855, and disclose that Clifford Anderson, father of Robert L. Anderson, Sr., well-known Macon attorney, was elected president.[141]

139. Georgia Citizen, January, 1856.
140. Georgia Telegraph, March, 1856.
141. Papers of P. A. McArthur, Macon Y.M.C.A.

Business continued on the incline throughout the year in Macon. In April, a new bank, the Bank of Middle Georgia, was organized with Isaac G. Scott, President and H. M. North, Cashier. A report of the Macon Cotton Mill during the same month indicated a continued growth of that concern. The report showed 115 persons employed by the company with an average payroll of $13 per operator per month. The mill had 159 power looms which used 4½ bales of cotton daily. Four to five thousand yards of cloth and 160 pounds of yarn were manufactured daily.

Plans were announced in April by the City Council for the construction of a new City Hall to be located at the corner of Cherry and Second. The plans called for a three-story brick building, 107 by 97 feet with a square tower 125 feet high on the southwest; an octagonal turret 85 feet high on the west; and another square tower of the same height on the north corner. Plans also called for a clock to be placed in the main tower with four transparent dial plates to be illuminated at night by gas.[142]

There were numerous accidents in the city during this period caused by runaway horses and carelessness in riding horses and driving carriages. Typical of these was the account of an accident appearing in the *Georgia Telegraph,* June 3, 1856 involving Thomas Malsby, a 10 year old lad, whose horse ran away with him. With his foot locked in the stirrup, he was dragged from Ross' Corner to the Female College, a distance of a quarter of a mile. His head was frightfully fractured and battered and many bones broken. The injuries were fatal.

On June 25th, a public meeting was held at Concert Hall for the purpose of providing means to send southern emigrants to Kansas. For two years after the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill in 1854, there was civil war in the new territory of Kansas between the free-soil immigrants from New England and the pro-slavery settlers who crossed the border from the South. Each set up a government and claimed recognition from Washington. Each charged the other with lawlessness and fraud. The North was bitter because of the passage of the bill which did away with the principle of a line dividing free territory from slave territory and substituted therefor the right of the people of the new territory themselves to decide whether it should be free soil or slave territory. Consequently, many northerners poured into the new territory.

During May, 1846, both factions actually attacked each other. A group of pro-slavery farmers sacked the free-soil town of Lawrence, and, John Brown, the fanatical abolitionist agitator, with a small band of free-soil followers, including his four sons, invaded a pro-slavery settlement, where they dragged five men from their beds at night and

142. Georgia Telegraph, April, 1856.

massacred them in cold blood. Bands of armed rioters marched up and down the territory. Farmers went in groups, armed to the teeth, to till their fields. Many cattle were plundered and houses and barns set on fire. Over 200 lives were lost and $2,000,000 worth of property destroyed in a short while.[143]

The country was in a turmoil, and tension became keen. Kansas aid meetings were held all over the South. Several meetings were held in this city during July and August, but the movement was put into force by the meeting held on June 25th. At this meeting, Colonel Nathan Bass was named chairman and W. C. Redding, Jr., secretary. E. C. Grier was appointed chairman of the special committee to report the business for action, namely that of providing assistance for the southern people in Kansas. E. T. Tracy and Colonel A. M. Speer gave eloquent and spirited addresses to impress upon the group the need and importance of big and decisive action for the maintenance and perpetuity of Southern institutions. A resolution was passed that the chair appoint a committee of seven to solicit subscriptions and raise funds to aid a company of emigrants already organized to proceed to Kansas. Included on this committee were Colonel John B. Lamar, C. B. Nottingham, M. D. George, W. Ross. E. C. Grier, Colonel George M. Logan, T. R. Bloom, and Judge Clifford Anderson. Considerable funds were raised in this city to assist the southern cause in the new territory.[144]

During July, the convention of the Democratic Party in Georgia for nominating presidential electors was held in Milledgeville and a Macon man, Sam Hall, who represented the second district, was among the electors chosen. During this same period, the commencement exercises of Wesleyan Female College were held, opening with the commencement sermon by Bishop Andrews, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and closing with an address by the Hon. E. A. Nisbet on the theme of "beauty". Among the seventeen graduating members of the senior class were the Misses Rosaline Green, Mary A. E. Groce, and Anna E. Newton, of this city.

Masonic and Odd Fellow conventions were held in the city during the year. The Grand Lodge of Georgia had 200 representatives from 196 Masonic Lodges in attendance. Simri Rose was re-elected Grand Secretary. The Grand Lodge and Grand Encampment, I.O.O.F. was well attended and John S. Hutton, Macon, was named deputy Grand Master.

The city was visited by a violent storm on August 1st. The rain started in the early morning and lasted for fourteen hours without interruption. A gale-like wind accompanied the torrential downpour. Trees and fences were blown down and some buildings damaged. The

143. Muzzey: The American People.
144. Georgia Journal and Messenger, June, 1856.

corn and cotton crops were heavily hit. Streams rose to flood stage and several bridges washed away. Train schedules were disrupted. Several days were required to return to normalcy.

Several select and private schools opened in the city during September and October. Among these was Mr. Waterman's select school for young ladies; the select school of Messers E. C. Rowland and B. M. Polhill; and a new school for young ladies under the supervision of Misses C. M. Melville and E. J. Gray. Macon also was the site of a Medical College during this period. The Reform Medical College commenced its 18th annual course of lectures during November. The college had previously received two endowments from the State of Georgia and had a splendid college edifice with apparatus, specimens, facilities, and a hospital for clinical instruction. Ample cadavers were procured from New York. The six qualified physicians who composed the faculty included Dr. L. Bankston, M.D., Professor of Physiology, Pathology, and Materia Medica; Dr. J. T. Coxe, M.D., Professor of The Principles and Practice of Medicine and Therapeutics; Dr. M. S. Thomson, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children; Dr. I. N. Loomis, A.M., M.D., Professor of Chemistry, Botany, Pharmacy, and Microscopy; Dr. I. M. Coming, A.M., M.D., Professor of Anatomy and Surgery; and Dr. O. A. Cochrane, M.D., Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, Comparative Anatomy, and Comparative Physiology.[145]

The South-Western Railroad was opened to Albany during the year, and another fertile agricultural section began sending cotton to Macon.

The Know-Nothing, or American Party as it was called in this section, was successful in the state election, electing their candidates to both the Senate and the House. However, in the city election, the Democrats prevailed and their nominee, Abraham B. Adams, was named on December 13, 1856 as the new Mayor. Councilmen elected to serve with him included Robert A. Findlay, Franklin S. Bloom, David Flanders, Emory Winship, E. L. Strohecker, Albert J. Bostick, Thomas B. Elfe, and E. J. Johnston. Dr. Strohecker resigned in March of the following year to become Post Master and was succeeded on July 2nd by John J. Ells.[146]

Entertainment during the year included Wyman, the Magician, with acts of magic and experiments in ventriloquism at Concert Hall, and Mr. Collins, the celebrated Irish comedian and vocalist, at the Lanier House, during January; Campbell's Original Minstrels in February; Ballard, Bailey & Company's French Circus during March; the Bear Woman, hailed as one of the world's greatest curiosities, part human

145. Georgia Telegraph, September, 1856.
146. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, City Clerk.

and part bear, appeared for three days in April at Concert Hall, as did Kemmerer's Grand Juvenile Concert; musical presentation of "Hiawatha" by Mrs. W. H. Crisp's troupe featuring Miss Rosalie Durand and Frederick Lyster in September; Eldred's Great Southern Circus and Show, and the new Railroad Circus of Spalding and Rogers, in October; Christy's Minstrels and Colonel Wood's Museum of Living Wonders, featuring the Swiss bearded lady, the Maine giantess, Miss Sylvia Hardy, over eight feet tall, Miss Lavina Warren the Liliputian queen, twenty-eight inches high and twenty-six pounds in weight, during November; and a Grand Concert by the Georgia Academy for the Blind, in December.[147]

1857

The year, 1857, was one of great building activity for Macon. Many new business houses and stores and private residences were constructed during the year. Vacant spaces in the important blocks of the business sections which had been caused by the frequent fires of recent years were generally replaced with new and imposing structures. It was estimated that the total value of new buildings erected during the year approximated three-fourths of a million dollars.

Included among the numerous construction projects were nine two-story brick stores and a concert hall at Third and Cherry, James Ralston, owner; a brick store on the opposite corner belonging to Asher Ayres; a two-story brick store on Third Street, J. Horne, owner; storehouse on Third, Thomas J. Lane; a storehouse at Cherry and Second for wholesale and retail dry goods, J. B. and William A. Ross; two three-story brick storehouses for Captain B. F. Ross and Elijah Bond; a two-story brick storehouse on Third Street for Mrs. Sullivan; two three-story brick stores at Third and Mulberry for Dr. Strohecker; two of the same structure on the opposite corner for James B. Ayres; one three-story brick clothing company for J. L. Jones; three brick store buildings three stories high with a one-story front of Stone Mountain granite for J. C. Dunham of Putnam county; four three-story brick buildings on the site of the old Washington Hall at Mulberry and Second; one two-story brick building on Second Street for Mr. Damour; two buildings at the corner of Cherry and Cotton Avenue for James Ralston; two brick stores of two stories each on Mulberry Street for Mr. Massett; the Presbyterian Church at the corner of Mulberry and First; and the Mechanics Bank and Marine Bank at the corner of Cherry and Second, which was being rebuilt and renovated.

In addition to the above business houses, many private houses were completed or under construction during the year. Included among these were the residence of H. Horne, Cherry Street, $4,000; the

147. Georgia Telegraph and Georgia Citizen, 1856.



The P. L. Hay Home. Built by Mr. W. B. Johnston and later owned by Judge W. H. Felton.
Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones.

wooded mansion on the Hill of Mrs. John Lamar, $7,000; a German cottage on the Hill, N. C. Munroe, $5,000; the large brick mansion of Charles Collins, $12,000; new home of James H. R. Washington near Wesleyan Female College, $6,000; the palatial residence of William B. Johnson on Georgia Avenue, over $100,000; mansion of T. P. Stubbs on the Hill, $8,000; residence of H. L. Jewett, $8,000; home of L. F. W. Andrews at the corner of Third and Wharf, $8,000; and many others.[148]

Henry G. Ross, who was believed to be the oldest resident of the city at the time of his death, died on January 7th. Mr. Ross settled at Fort Hawkins in 1818 when it was the frontier of Georgia. He served as Clerk of the Superior Court for almost thirty years. He was active in the business and political life of the community throughout this period.[149]

On January 8th, a reorganization of personnel of the Macon Volunteers took place and the following officers were elected: Captain R. A.

148. The Georgia Citizen, April, 1857.
149. Supplement: Macon News, July, 1929.

Smith, 1st Lt. A. G. Butts, 2nd Lt. John Knight, 3rd Lt. B. M. Polhill, and Ensign R. L. Wood.

An unusual funeral occurred on January 14th when "Old Albert, the Drummer" was buried. He was Albert Collins, a negro, who had attached himself to the company of Macon Volunteers in a servant's capacity. One of the early inhabitants of Macon, he had followed the Volunteers for many years. He was a member, also, of the Presbyterian Church. A formidable array of colored musicians, bearing their instruments in draped mourning, led the sable procession. Drums and fifes preceded the hearse playing a melancholy strain, and a long train of colored population on foot and in carriages brought up the rear. Behind the hearse, swung the time-honored drum, which had so often "beat up a tune" for the Macon Volunteers.[150]

Ice skating became the prevailing winter sport in Macon the last week in January when ten degree weather froze over all the lakes and ponds. Ice was as thick as 3 to 4 inches in most places. The entire month of January, 1857, was unusually cold, as was the same month of the preceding year. The pattern of weather for the year was almost identical with that of 1856.

News of the death of Major Matthew Robertson was received in the city on February 11th. He died at his residence in Harris County. Major Robertson was the first proprietor and editor of the *Georgia Messenger* at Fort Hawkins in 1823.[151]

On Sunday night, March 4th, around 11:00 P.M., Macon citizens were aroused by the smart shock of an earthquake. The tremor was also felt in the state capitol at Milledgeville, and surrounding communities. No damage was reported.[152]

In April, the old wooden building known as the Mansion House, one of the great hostelries of Macon during the earlier days, caught fire and burned to the ground. At the height of the fire, the Court House roof caught, as did several nearby residences. The spread of the flames was caused by a strong northeast wind. However, volunteer firemen, after several hours of hectic fighting, were able to bring the flames under control without further loss.

The hospitality of the city was generously demonstrated during the first week in June when Macon was host to the Grand Encampment of Odd Fellows, the Grand Lodge of I.O.O.F., the National Council of the Knights of Jericho, and a delegation from Memphis consisting of the Mayor and Council, and about 200 firemen and citizens. Mayor Adams, of this city, appointed a committee to receive and entertain these important guests. The committee was composed of E. O. Tracy, J. H. R. Washington, H. M. North, E. C. Grier, Joseph Bond, Charles

150. Georgia Journal and Messenger, January, 1857.
151. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
152. Georgia Citizen, March, 1857.

A. Ells, P. E. Bowdre, Elam Alexander, O. F. Adams, Isaac Scott, Robert Collins, George T. Rogers, Asher Ayres, William H. Bray, E. H. Carhart, A. M. Smith, George W. Adams, George W. Ross, Charles V. Wood, C. Anderson, Ira H. Taylor, M. A. Franklin, James W. Griffin, P. Tracy, Emerson Foote, O. A. Lochrane, James A. Ralston, John L. Jones, and William J. McElroy.[153]

The Memphis delegation, which included many ladies prominent in the society of that city, had been on an excursion to Charleston and Savannah, and were en route home by way of this city. They were met at the station and an appropriate address of welcome was extended by the Hon. A. H. Chappell. A big parade was held, followed by a reception at the Lanier House. The local military, firemen, city officials, and citizens, generally, united in extending the visitors a hospitable welcome. Many private carriages were placed at their disposal, and the mansions of the wealthier citizens opened for their convenience. The hotels were also available for their reception at the expense of the city, and a large number of gentlemen were quartered and feasted at these. At night, a grand soiree was given at the large and handsome saloon over the Depot, and an elegant supper prepared at the Brown House. Music and dancing, and other social practices of the times, were provided for the pleasure of these guests. Upon their return to Memphis, the press of that city was very complimentary concerning the wonderful hospitality shown by Macon's citizens.[154]

During the same month, an organizational meeting was held for the purpose of planning a railroad from Macon to Brunswick. Among the directors named were Captain B. F. Ross, T. R. Bloom, and L. N. Whittle, of this city. Judge A. E. Cochran, of Brunswick, was elected president of the proposed road. The meeting passed a resolution of thanks to Elam Alexander, whose interest and enthusiasm in the enterprise laid the groundwork for this organization.

On the 4th of July, Macon's military companies participated in a colorful celebration in Milledgeville, where Governor Johnson had called a convention of all of the military forces in Georgia. Eighteen companies passed in review, and paraded before a vast throng of spectators, who had gathered there for the occasion.

A cloudburst hit Macon on August 1st, causing thousands of dollars of damage. Culverts were destroyed, streets badly washed, and much high water experienced. The rain fell with a volume of power which surprised even the oldest inhabitants. Both the South-Western and Macon and Western Railroads were hard hit. A train of the latter was cut off by washouts and had to be abandoned, and passengers returned to the city by hacks. Poplar Street became a raging river and its foaming torrents flooded and demolished negro houses, carried away stables,

153. Georgia Telegraph, June, 1857.
154. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

and washed away several horses and carriages. Many sections of the city were submerged for several hours.[155]

During the year, the General Assembly appropriated $55,000 to the Georgia Academy for the Blind for the construction of suitable buildings and facilities for this institution.

The Know-Nothing, or American Party, was successful in the annual City Election and on December 12th, Ovid G. Sparks was elected Mayor of the City. Aldermen elected to City Council included A. R. Freeman, Clifford Anderson, Gabriel Harrison, J. L. Jones, J. DeLoache, D. T. Driggers, James V. Grier, and John T. Boifeuillet.

The year's entertainment was highlighted by the grand opening of Ralston's New Concert Hall on March 12th. At that time, a stock company from Nashville featuring Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Ward and other celebrated stage performers presented the plays, "Ingomar", the "Barbarian", and the "Spectre Bridegroom". A musical concert on December 18th by the pupils of the Georgia Academy for the Blind was also well received by a large audience. The concert was under the direction of Professor L. A. Hall. The usual minstrels, circuses, panoramas, magic shows, and musical programs by traveling stock companies rounded out the year's activities.[156]

1858

Perhaps the most outstanding event, up to that time, in Macon's musical history occurred on February 5, 1858 when Sigismund Thalberg, the celebrated pianist, and Henry Vieuxtemps, equally renowned violinist, performed before a large and brilliant audience. Both of these artists were regarded as the best in their respective fields in the world, and had appeared in all of the leading theaters of Europe and this country. They brought with them a company of opera stars which included Madame Johanson, Signor Adavarini, and the beautiful and charming Miss Kemp, a young American contralto, who was very popular. The Concert was held at the newly enlarged and redecorated Ralston Hall. The new hall accommodated an audience of 1200, and gave the city one of the finest and most commodious public halls in the state.[157]

Macon citizens were given another treat in March when they were successfully entertained at a musical concert given by the young ladies composing the musical classes of the Messers H. L. and S. A. Schreiner, assisted on the violin by Professor A. Waldau, and by a German Music Club under the name of the "Macon Liedertafel". The program was a tremendous hit. Included among the performers were Mrs. Boykin,

155. Georgia Journal and Messenger, August, 1857.
156. Georgia Citizen, 1857.
157. Georgia Telegraph, February, 1858.

Misses Poe, Nisbet, Gaines, Bass, Towns, Macarthy, Maxwell, Collins, Napier, Dessau, Monroe, Armstrong, Payne, Nottingham, Parker, Holt, McMullin, Wyche, Harris, and Master Napier. A special arrangement of "Home, Sweet Home" was given by the group and dedicated as a tribute of regard to Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Nathan Munroe, and Mrs. Washington Poe.

There was much religious activity in the city during the month of March, as several of the churches arranged daily programs. The Rev. Dr. Stiles, of New Haven, a former pastor of the Presbyterian Church in this city, led services in that church. In the Episcopal Church, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Elliott officiated at daily meetings. At the Baptist Church, Mr. Kennedy, the eloquent boy preacher, attracted large congregations.[158]

A parade and gala celebration of the Macon Fire Department occurred on April 13th. Two hundred men in the four volunteer companies marched up Walnut and down Mulberry in a colorful procession. Contests were held between the three engine companies, and prizes were awarded by Fire Chief George S. Obear and Assistant Chief H. M. North to J. D. Van Valkenburg, H. N. Ells, and F. S. Bloom. The fire department of Macon was rated as one of the most efficient of any place of its size in the United States, but was greatly handicapped by the lack of an adequate water supply. A new, handsome hook and ladder carriage, which had just been purchased by City Council, was displayed to the crowd.[159]

The newly invented, non-explosive, self-generated gas light was demonstrated in Macon for the first time on May 17th at the Floyd House, and won the plaudits of a large group of admiring Maconites.

A catalogue of Wesleyan Female College, released during June, showed that the alumnae of that famous institution now numbered more than 300 members. The personnel of the college consisted of twenty-six seniors, thirty-seven juniors, forty sophomores, twenty-nine in the second class, thirty-four in the first class, and eleven irregulars. Dr. Osborne L. Smith headed the school, and was assisted by nine colleagues in the various departments of science and art.

On July 6th, an elaborate parade and ceremony took place in the laying of the cornerstone of the new building for the Georgia Academy for the Blind. The site of the new building was on College Street, between College and Orange. The Worshipful Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge of Georgia, Julius A. Rockwell, performed the initial act of construction. He was assisted by Thomas Hardeman. The military and fire companies, various fraternal societies, and many citizens participated in the affair. Trustees of the Academy were James M.

158. Supplement: Macon News, July, 1929.
159. Georgia Telegraph, April, 1858.

Green, N. C. Munroe, R. A. Smith, Nathan Bass, L. N. Whittle, Washington Poe, and Jackson DeLoache.

The cornerstone ceremonies were marred somewhat when the horses attached to a carriage on Cotton Avenue took fright from the drums of the military, and dashed down a steep bank which divided the Avenue from First Street just above the fork, colliding with carriages of Colonels Washington and Speer containing ladies and children of their families. Both carriages were upset and badly wrecked, and several of the occupants painfully injured.[160]

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the South-Western Railroad was held in Macon on August 12th. The net earnings of the company were announced as $208,777.31 and a dividend of 8% was declared. The report indicated that there was no floating debt, that the management was efficient, and that future prospects for increased earnings and expansion were very bright. R. R. Cuyler was re-elected President, and the directors of the company included John W. Anderson, William A. Block, William S. Holt, T. M. Furlow, Robert A. Smith, George W. Adams, and John T. Boifeuillet.

The new Presbyterian Church at the corner of Mulberry and First Streets was completed and dedicated during September with the Rev. Breck, the pastor, giving the dedication service, and the Rev. Boring, of the Methodist Church, offering the dedication prayer. An audience much larger than the church could accommodate assembled for the occasion. The new church was constructed at a total cost of $25,943.16.

The Macon Harmonic Society gave its first concert at the mansion of Mrs. John Lamar before a small, invited audience on September 22nd. The Association embraced both professional and amateur talent, and the assembly was surprised and delighted with the performances.

A record load was carried by one of the locomotives of the Central Railroad on October 23rd when the "William M. Wadley" hauled twenty-one open cars and nineteen boxcars, containing 1,350 bales of cotton from Macon to Savannah. The "Wadley" was considered one of the best locomotives on any road at the time and was manufactured, in every part, at the workshops of the company in Savannah by William Burnes.[161]

Business was at a high peak in Macon throughout the year. A temporary panic in the North which caused thousands of banks and businesses to close did not seriously impair the prosperity of this section. An extract from the Georgia Telegraph, October 19, 1858, states: "Full pockets and pleasant faces meet us at every corner now-a-days. The planters are bringing in their cotton and selling at present rates. Debts

160. Georgia Telegraph, July, 1846.
161. Butler: Historical Record of Georgia.

are paid, liberal supplies are purchased, and the Macon people in all departments of trade are doing a smashing business.

"The old and well-known house of J. B. and W. A. Ross sold over $80,000 worth of goods during the past week, and our merchants are generally selling more goods and making better collections than during any previous year. Macon is increasing in population, in enterprise, and in capital, and by a judicial use of the many local and railroad facilities which she enjoys in a pre-eminent degree, will shortly become the largest city in Georgia, if not in the South Atlantic states."

A heavy schedule of professional amusements and theatrical performances helped to keep the citizens of the city well entertained during the year. In addition to the performance by Professor Schreiner's pupils and the opening of Ralston Hall with the appearance of Thalberg, many other interesting performances were given. In April, Mrs. Annie Thomas Sholl, celebrated soprano singer, and Carl Vieweg, pianist and violinist from Leipsig and Paris, presented a Grand Concert at Ralston Hall. During the same month, lectures and experiments in an exhibition of science were given by Dr. Boynton at the Hall. His performance consisted of suspending a rod of iron in the air by electricity; suspending a boy in mid-air; setting water on fire; making a bonfire out of ice; loading a cannon with water and setting it off with an icicle; and a balloon ascension.

On June 10th, the second presentation of programs by the Macon Dramatic Association was made. With W. H. Lane, as manager, the four-act play "Retribution", with the laughable after-piece "To Parents and Guardians" was presented at Ralston Hall. The pupils of the Georgia Academy for the Blind presented a concert during the summer. In December, the Star Dramatic Company, under the direction and management of W. M. Fleming, presented a series of Shakespeare's plays including the tragedy "Hamlet". Minstrels, circuses, panoramas, and magic shows completed the year's program.[162]

The annual election of city officials took place on December 15th and Ovid G. Sparks was re-elected Mayor of the City. Councilmen named to serve with him included Daniel T. Driggers, James V. Grier, Jackson DeLoache, Clifford Anderson, A. R. Freeman, A. B. Adams, John T. Boifeuillet, and John H. Langley. Freeman and DeLoache resigned and were replaced on January 25 of the following year by Benjamin F. Ross and Stephen Collins. A. B. Adams was replaced on March 28 by Dr. Gabriel Harrison.[163]

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162 Georgia Citizen and Georgia Telegraph, 1858.
163. Papers of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, City Clerk.

1859

The rapid advancement of Macon in manufacturing and commerce; its development as a great market for cotton and farm produce; and its growth in population and social activities were the topics of much comment during the year 1859. During this prosperous period, Macon's industries and business establishments included a textile mill, The Macon Cotton Manufactory, located on the South Commons, a four-story brick building with 5,000 spindles and 129 looms, and a capital of $140,000; five machine shops and foundries—including those of the Macon & Western Railroad, and South-Western Railroad, Findlay's Iron and Brass Foundry, T. C. Nisbet Foundry & Machine Shop, and the Schofield Iron Works, with a total capital of over $250,000; three establishments which manufactured furniture, building material, and home furnishings, The Variety Steam Works, B. F. Ross, The Steam Furniture Factory, T. & G. Wood, and John Knight's Machine Shop, on Third Street, with a total capital of $100,000; Munro, Knight & Bass, manufacturers of flour, $24,000 capital; three establishments manufacturing carriages and buggies, Freeman & Roberts, T. H. Plant, and Little & Smith; four brick yards, ten wholesale groceries; one shoe factory; three large shoe dealers; one exclusive hat and cap store; five drug stores; one marble works; eight cotton warehouses; thirty lawyers; eighteen doctors; five churches representing the Catholic, Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopalian faiths; twenty dry goods stores; two saloons for the taking of daguerreotypes; five millinery shops; four jewelry stores; two banks; three newspapers; one gunsmith; five hardware stores; five hotels; four clothing houses besides several draper and tailor establishments; two furniture stores; two saddlery and harness establishments; three book stores; one bakery; one plumbing establishment; two livery stables; eight dentists; two printing offices; and dozens of grocery stores. The city was lighted with gas; had an express office, a telegraph office, a race course, and cock-pit. Beautiful Rose Hill Cemetery was located here. Macon was served by three railroads and a fourth was about to be constructed. It also boasted of three military and four fire companies.[164]

Great enthusiasm was shown throughout the year toward the construction of the Macon & Brunswick Railroad. At a mass meeting held at the Court House during January, more than 500 citizens attended. Mayor O. G. Sparks, the Hon. Thomas Hardeman, and Colonel L. N. Whittle addressed the group. Resolutions were unanimously passed recommending the Mayor and Council of the City of Macon to subscribe $200,000 to the capital stock of the railroad, to be binding when a like sum shall have been paid in by other parties. It was also recom-

164. Georgia Citizen, 1859.

mended that the Mayor and Council grant a right of way to the railroad, free of charge, through any part of the city where it may be necessary.[165]

A sad and untimely accident occurred at Ralston Hall on January 25. While the Marsh children were participating in a play, the "Naiad Queen", little Mary Marsh, in retreating backward from the audience, came in contact with a flame of light. It set fire to her gossamer dress, and burned her so severely before it could be extinguished that she died from the burns. One of her companions and Mrs. Marsh were also burned in attempting to aid her, but not seriously. The alarm and the excitement among the audience was very great, and the performance was stopped. A monument was later erected to her memory in Rose Hill Cemetery and at its base, in a glass case, the bouquet which she was wearing on the evening of the fatal accident was placed.[166]

One of Macon's most prominent planters, Colonel Joseph Bond, was believed to have made the largest cotton crop by any one planter in the state in 1858. His crop amounted to 2,200 bales. Great interest was manifested in the business world when he disposed of his entire crop in February, 1859, to T. R. Bloom, of this city. The proceeds of the sale amounted to well over $100,000.[167]

Business continued booming in Macon, and an article in the Georgia Telegraph, March 8, 1859, indicated that the city was now drawing trade from points within forty miles of Augusta, thirty miles of Columbus, thirty miles of Atlanta, and seventy miles of Savannah. The trade increased so much during the preceding five months that local businessmen found their stock so depleted that they could not supply many orders for goods.

The sudden and violent death of Colonel Joseph Bond, one of Macon's best citizens, who was widely known as a planter of great wealth, occurred on March 12th. The entire community was shocked and saddened by the news. It appears that a misunderstanding had existed for some time between Colonel Bond and Lucius Brown, formerly his overseer, who was employed on a neighboring plantation owned by Colonel Beall. Brown had a short time before attacked and severely whipped an old and faithful servant of Bond's. Upon examining the injuries sustained by the servant and finding them to be very severe, Colonel Bond became excited and angry, mounted his horse, and started after Brown. He found him on horseback on Beall's premises where he assailed him with a cane, knocking him off his horse. Brown recovered to his feet and shot Bond through the body whereupon Bond dismounted and fired at Brown as he ran from him,

165. Supplement: Macon News, July, 1929.
166. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
167. Georgia Telegraph, February, 1859.

wounding him in the thigh. Bond lived but thirty minutes after the recontre. He was one of the wealthiest men in Georgia, and left an estate estimated at $1,500,000. His remains were brought to Macon and buried from the Presbyterian Church by the Bibb Cavalry, of which he was an officer, and a large concourse of friends.[168]

Another valuable citizen of Macon, William G. Lockett, died in April. Appropriate resolutions were passed by the Bibb Cavalry, of which he was a member.

A Macon man, Wilburne B. Hall, son of Mrs. J. T. Coxe, of this city, graduated in June from the Naval Academy at Annapolis with highest honors. He held many positions of distinction at the Academy, and was first on the list for promotion from the class of Midshipmen, 1859.

A freak accident caused injury to two prominent businessmen during June. Elijah Bond, President of the Manufacturer's Bank, and Colonel George Smith, Upson County, were painfully wounded on June 18th by the accidental discharge of a gun which fell from the hands of a youth coming out of a store. The two men were in conversation at the store door at the moment the gun fell and exploded, and the contents of both barrels struck them.[169]

Impressive ceremonies marked the celebration in the city of the 4th of July anniversary. The turn out of the military for the annual parade was large and imposing, numbering four companies and an engineer corps. There was a long procession of fraternities and citizens, and only half of those desiring to get into Ralston Hall for the public exercises could be accommodated. William M. Townsend was the reader of the Declaration of Independence, while P. Tracy, Esquire, was the orator for the occasion. Both won much applause.

A feature of the day was the presentation of a beautiful flag to the Macon Volunteers by Miss Julia E. Collins at the residence of her father, Dr. Robert Collins. Colonel W. K. DeGraffenreid was spokesman for Miss Collins while O. A. Poe of the Volunteers acknowledged the compliment. This represented the sixth flag presented by ladies to this company during its long existence.

The community sustained a heavy loss in the death of two citizens during the latter part of the summer. Peter Stubbs, a leading member of the Macon Bar, died on August 3rd. Judge A. P. Powers, another well known member of the Bar, died at his home in Vineville on October 2nd. Both were active in the political and civic affairs of the city, and Judge Powers was participating in a political campaign for election to the Legislature at the time of his death.

On October 25th, the Hon. Henry L. Jackson, Colonel of the Georgia

168. Georgia Journal and Messenger, March, 1859.
169. Georgia Journal and Messenger, June, 1849.

Regiment in the Mexican War, delivered an address to the memory of Captain Isaac Holmes in ceremonies inaugurating the erection of a monument in honor of Captain Holmes in Rose Hill Cemetery. Thomas Hardeman also delivered a stirring address on the part of Masonry. The General Assembly of Georgia by resolutions in 1857 directed the Governor to cause to be erected a suitable monument to the late Captain Holmes in honor of his services to his country in the Florida War and the late Mexican War. Citizens of Macon, the Macon Volunteers, and the local fraternities and orders united in this testimonial.

Robert Findlay, head of Findlay's Iron and Brass Foundry, died in this city on November 30th. A native of Scotland, he settled in Macon in 1836, in charge of steam machinery for the old Monroe Railroad. He put up and ran the first locomotive on that road from Macon to Forsyth.[170] Beginning with a small shop for castings, he developed and expanded his foundry into the largest of its kind in the state. He was a leading member of the Baptist Church, former Chief of the Fire Department, and active in every department of business in the city. One of the largest cortege's ever seen in Macon attended the funeral at Rose Hill Cemetery.

The census of 1859 by Mr. Burnett showed a population in the city of approximately 10,000 while the total number for the county was 15,000. Three-fifths of the population consisted of whites and free negroes, while the remainder was composed of slaves.

Ovid G. Sparks was re-elected Mayor on December 10, 1859 and Councilmen elected at that time included Dr. Gabriel Harrison, D. T. Driggers, J. V. Grier, C. H. Rogers, William P. Goodall, Thomas A. Harris, John T. Boifeuillet, and Thomas Dougherty.

Theatrical programs for the year, 1859, included Bolfe's celebrated opera, "The Bohemian Girl"; and the presentation of W. M. Fleming's Company of "Romeo and Juliet" and the "Taming of the Shrew", at Ralston Hall in January. During the fall, Strakosch and his Opera Troupe featuring a Virginia lady, Cora de Wilhout, the American "prima donna" just returned from a European tour, presented a popular program.

Three circuses, two minstrels, two magic shows, several original paintings, a balloon ascension, a juvenile performance, and a variety show also visited the city during the year.

Home talent performed in the grand vocal and instrumental concert by the music classes of Professor Schreiner at Ralston Hall in May, and the performance by the pupils of the Georgia Academy for the Blind at the same place in December.

As mentioned elsewhere, this period, 1845-1860, which immediately

170. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

preceded the War Between the States, was characterized in Macon by the development of its industries and commerce; the improvement of its transportation and educational facilities; the growth of its population and trade area; the keen rivalry and heated competition of its political contests; a great emphasis upon religious, fraternal, and cultural activities; and the expansion of its business and residential districts.

Many of the famous architectural landmarks of the city which still remain may be traced back to this prosperous period. Although such fine residences as the Randolph-Whittle House, 111 Jefferson Terrace; the Moultrie-Proudfit House, 137 Jefferson Terrace; the Speer-Birdsey home, 304 Vineville Avenue; the Thaddeus Goode Holt House, 319 Georgia Avenue; the Cowles-Bond-O'Neal Home, 138 Bond Street; the Sidney Lanier Cottage, 213 High Street; the John Hill Lamar House, 520 Orange Street; and others were constructed prior to 1845, many others had their origin during this era.[171] Some of the more prominent of these include the following: the Ralph Small Home, 115 Rogers Avenue, built in 1846 by Skelton Napier and known in architectural circles throughout the country as a true type of Greek Revival architecture with its large veranda and six Doric columns; the Miller-Carmichael House, 323 Georgia Avenue, built by Cadwell W. Raines in 1848 — a two-story, white, frame house constructed in the form of a Greek cross with porches set between the arms of the cross—has a central octagonal tower, which contains a beautiful free-hanging stairway; the Asa Holt House, 856 Mulberry, built by Asa Holt in 1853, a two-story, white, Greek Revival residence with Doric columns and Palladian doorway. (A mended column and a dent in the floor of the hallway are evidence that a cannon ball, fired from Stoneman's battery outside the city limits, struck the house on July 30, 1864. The shell struck the sand sidewalk and ricocheted upward through the parlor into the hall, damaging the second column from the left); the Johnston-Hay Home, corner of Georgia Avenue and Spring Street, built in 1855 by James B. Ayres, according to plans and details collected by its owner, Colonel William B. Johnston, as the result of his study in Italy, red brick modeled on the style of an Italian villa, almost all of material imported from Italy, white marble steps, a reproduction of those at the capitol in Washington, total cost unknown, believed to be in excess of $125,000.

Three office buildings which still remain in use, all on Mulberry Street, were also built in the 1850's. They are the Washington Block, at the corner of Mulberry and Second, which replaced the old Washington Hall; the Emerson Building, 556 Mulberry, three-story brown-

171. The Macon Guide, 1939.

stone building using both mid-Victorian and Italian architectural influences; and a three-story red brick building at 554 Mulberry, which served as the headquarters for the Army of Georgia Reserves under Major General Howell Cobb from April, 1864 until the end of the War Between the States. A marker has been placed in this building by the Sidney Lanier Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Chapter V

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES; RECONSTRUCTION; RECOVERY

The years 1860-1880 saw Macon and its citizens fall from the heights of success and prosperity to the depths of failure and despair, a condition which was characteristic of the entire Southland during this historic period. However, the city and its people demonstrated the comeback qualities necessary for recovery and toward the end of the era a return to some of the pre-war advantages was indicated. The snapping of the last bond of union, the secession of the Southern states, four years of bitter warfare, a decade of blundering reconstruction, and slow recovery — such were the events which highlighted the nation's history during this period. And Macon, like most of the other cities of the South, played its role with dignity, honor, and courage.

The year 1860 was marked by continued business prosperity, civic improvement, and spirited political activity. The annual report of the Macon and Western Railroad, given by Isaac Scott, President, in January disclosed a substantial profit, a nine per cent dividend, with a cash balance of $130,591 in the treasury. On February 1st, Joseph Clisby, editor of the Macon Telegraph, gave the city its first daily newspaper. In an editorial in the first daily issue, it was brought out that during the past three years, the city's trade had increased by more than fifty per cent, real estate was valued at one-third higher figures, handsome speculation was possible in many fields and there were no vacant dwellings. Quoted the Telegraph: "We do not see an embryo London in our flourishing little city but the rate and character of her progress clearly indicates that she will certainly become in due time one of the largest interior towns of the South."

On March 16th, in a colorful ceremony in front of the Lanier House, a beautiful flag, prepared under the auspices of Frank S. Bloom, was presented to the Jackson Artillery. Before a large throng of admirers, Judge Phil Tracy presented the standard to Captain Theodore Parker. Donators of the flag included L. N. Whittle, L. M. Lamar, W. B. Parker, J. B. Ross, P. E. Bowdre, I. H. Taylor, Albert Mix, Robert Collins, Elam Alexander, P. Tracy, O. G. Sparks, J. M. Boardman,

and T. R. Bloom.[1] The annual Sabbath School celebration occurred on May 1st and a procession over a half a mile long participated. The roll call indicated that Baptist children were the most numerous, Methodists second, and Presbyterians third.

During the year, another railroad was organized connecting Macon with points toward the northeast. There had been much interest shown for sometime relative to a direct railroad connection between Macon and Augusta. This proposal found much support from businessmen of the city and on January 17th, the City Council passed a resolution stating that "the City of Macon has seen with great interest the movements of Augusta and Charleston to build a more direct line of railroad to this place, and that at the proper time Macon and her citizens will do their part of the work". During February, the citizens and City Council of Augusta subscribed half-a-million dollars toward the building of a Macon road. Subsequent to this, a stockholders meeting was held in Augusta in May at which time a Board of Directors was elected and the Macon and Augusta Railroad Company organized. The City Council of Macon and individual citizens subscribed about $100,000 toward this new project. S. D. Head was elected President and George H. Hazlehurst was named to survey the route for the road.

A representative of the Belgium government, his Excellency Edward Blondeel Van Cuelebroeck, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, visited in Macon during May for the purpose of conferring with the trade commissioners of the Cotton Planters' Convention prior to a trip by them to Europe.[2] The commissioners included Thomas Butler King, Colonel Thomas, and Howell Cobb. A series of social affairs were given during this occasion.

Perhaps the outstanding entertainment and social event of the year was the Belgian Fair held on December 11-12 and the annual Fair of the Cotton Planters' Convention which was presented during the period December 3-22 in conjunction therewith. A wide variety of Belgian and Southern products were displayed. In the foreign department, beautiful carpets of heaviest texture and brilliant colors, every kind of linen goods, calicoes, window shades, hats, caps, all kind of clothing, furniture, wines, paperhanging, pianos, glasses, porcelain, guns, mirrors, laces, silks, satin, embroidery, and goods for household use were exhibited. Robert Adger, of Charleston, and Wethered Brothers, of Baltimore, led the out-of-town displays. Macon Daguerrean Artists, Wood and Pugh & Brothers, had excellent displays. Expensive and fashionable furniture was exhibited by the firm of Wood & Brothers, Macon, while N. Weed, Carhart & Curd, and J. N. and C. D. Findlay were the leaders in the display of agricultural and mechanical implements.

1. Macon Telegraph.
2. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

Concerning the two main days of the Fair, the Macon Daily Telegraph, December 12th, comments: "Macon was crowded yesterday. An immense concourse of people thronged the Fairgrounds and every available carriage was in requisition busily flying between the city and Camp Oglethorpe. The approaches to the grounds are plentifully skirted with all sorts of "one horse" shows, snakes, fat women, fat hogs, gymnasts, and the like with a man at every tent shouting and bellowing over the prodigies to be seen within for "only a quarter". It is as busy, noisy, bustling, and gay a spectacle outside the grounds as Macon has seen for many a day.

"At nine o'clock yesterday morning, the Governor and Legislature arrived in a special train under the care of the President of the Central Railroad himself, who took personal supervision of the guests of the company for the trip. They were received at the Fairgrounds by the Jackson Artillery, with a salute of fifteen guns. At eleven o'clock, the inaugural ceremonies were introduced with an appropriate address from Colonel Nathan Bass, in which he traced the origin, progress, and aim of the Cotton Planters' Association, and then introduced the Rev. James Evans of this city who opened the exercises with prayer. Col. Bass then announced Judge Stone, of Alabama, the orator of the day, who gave a masterly and elaborate address upon slavery, its origin and history, and its connection with the agricultural and political destinies of the South.

"The Fairgrounds and Exhibition House was literally thronged by visitors all day—the crowd, in fact, so dense as to render a satisfactory inspection of the articles on display impossible. In the evening, the Macon battalion, under the command of Captain Smith of the Volunteers, marched upon the ground, and excited universal admiration by their brilliant and soldierly appearance. The Barnesville and Perry Brass Bands enlivened the scene throughout the day with their excellent music."

The combined Fairs lasted over two weeks with many successful displays, programs, and features being presented. It was one of the largest Fairs ever held in the South. Distinguished guests were numerous and many premiums were won by individuals and concerns from other states.

Among the Macon people who won awards were the following: Mrs. C. R. Armstrong, best two loaves of light bread; Mrs. L. E. Hinkles, best ten pounds of domestic lye soap; C. Hance, best fruit cake and sponge cake; Mrs. D. B. Woodruff, best half dozen jars of hermetically sealed fruit; Mrs. E. H. Link, best half bushel of dried peaches; Mrs. P. E. Bowdre, best twelve jars of pickles and best embroidery in frame; Mrs. P. Grovannini, best specimen of embroidery in chenille; Mrs. Schwartz, handsomest bead work; Miss M. Wyche,

best silk quilt; Miss Mary Findlay, best worsted quilt; Miss Gross, best tidy crochet works; Miss Wyche, best shawl crochet works; Miss Georgia Conner, best collar crochet work; Mrs. Fannie Dessau, handsomest velvet bonnet; Mrs. A. Audouin, handsomest straw bonnet; Mrs. S. W. Jeffers, handsomest shell works; Miss T. Snider, Wesleyan Female College, best specimen in plush; Mrs. F. Redding, second best specimen in plush; Miss S. Cason, best specimen of darned work; Mrs. E. Baber, best embroidery on child's dress; Miss L. White, best French embroidery on lady's dress; H. N. Ells, best Morgan stallion; John H. Josey, best stallion, not pure Morgan; S. Johnson, best Morgan mare; William Holmes, best bull; J. W. Aderhold, best yoke oxen; J. A. Ralston, best mare, colt by side; D. E. Blount, best filly; J. H. Andrews, best imported cow; M. Stubblefield, best sow and pigs; and Oscar Collins, best bantam chickens.[3]

One of the earliest baseball games recorded by the local press was played on February 11th, 1860 between two teams of the Olympic Club of this city. According to the Telegraph "the game was a close one, and at times a pretty contest as some of the innings prove but the second and third innings are unparalleled in any Club except the Olympic and shows them able to beat, in number of runs, any Club that is possessed of as many good ball players as is the Olympic. It is hoped that the next game will show a very different result." The team of Captain Boykin won out by a score of 34-32 over the team of Captain Grier. Grier's team scored 20 runs in the second inning; while Boykin's outfit came back with 17 runs in the third. The box score follows:

Grier		*Boykin*	
Grier, lf	3	Boykin, p	4
Wood, 1b	5	Tyler, 2b	5
Roff, p	2	Singleton lf	6
Emmell, c	5	Nisbet, 1b	3
Holmes, 2b	4	Wing, ss	1
Thompson, rf	5	Paterson, c	3
Wise, cf	4	Bledsoe, cf	3
Curd, 2b	3	Anderson, rf	4
Weed, ss	2	Rogers 2b	3
	34		32

Maconites were greatly concerned with the developments in the nation's political affairs during the year. The selection of the candidates for the presidency, the platform of the opposing parties, the threat to slavery as an institution, and the likelihood of secession by the Southern states produced a pattern of local politics which was

3. Macon Daily Telegraph.

marked with tension, emotion, and strong feelings. On April 23rd, the National Democratic Convention met at Charleston. A committee of one from each of the thirty-three states represented was appointed to draw up a platform and declaration of principles. The committee was in conference for three days with great dissension prevailing among its members, and still greater in the convention as a whole. Two platforms were submitted by the committee. The first was presented by a majority of seventeen members which adopted the platform of 1856 with an additional declaration upon the new issue that "all citizens of the United States have an equal right to settle with their property on United States territory without their rights, either of person or property, being destroyed or impaired by Congressional or Territorial legislation." The greater portion of Northern delegates were opposed to and voted against this additional plank.

The minority report of the committee evaded any definite commitment on this question, and was accepted by those who opposed the majority report. All efforts to conciliate the differences of these two factions failed and on May 1st, the fifteen Southern states, with Oregon and California, withdrew from the convention and organized independently by electing Mr. Bayard, of Delaware, as chairman, and adopted the name of the Constitutional Democratic Convention. A resolution was adopted to meet again on June 18th at Richmond provided that their action in withdrawing from the National Convention was approved by the voters in the respective states. The remainder of the Convention passed a resolution which would reconvene their forces in Baltimore on June 21st and requested the States unrepresented by the seceders to provide delegates to fill the vacancies. The favorite candidate for the Presidency in this Convention was Stephen A. Douglas.

The Georgia delegates had voted prior to the Convention to support a native son, Howell Cobb, for the presidency, but in order to prevent a disturbing influence, he had generously removed himself from such consideration. Nevertheless, the delegates remained uncertain and confused concerning their choice for a candidate and when the question of slavery was unfavorably considered by the Northern section of the Party, Georgia's delegates assumed major leadership in promoting the withdrawal from the Convention.

The split in the Democratic Party created much political excitement throughout the South, and upon the return of the Georgia delegates, many meetings were held throughout the state approving their action. There were, however two prevalent points of view, one claiming that the issues were clearly drawn and that the Democratic Party of the North would never again recognize slavery. The other contended that the only salvation of the South rested in a strong unified Party which

could defeat the Republican upsurge, already pledged to the abolition of slavery. Macon citizens were divided in their support of these two views. On May 19th, one part of the Democratic Party in Bibb County convened at the Court House and passed a resolution approving the action of the seceders at the Charleston Convention. This group recommended appointment of delegates to the Convention of Seceders at Richmond, and named five Macon men to attend a State Convention which had been called in Milledgeville to determine Georgia's position with reference to the Party. Delegates named at the meeting were E. L. Strohecker, P. Tracy, Joel R. Branham, John B. Lamar, and A. M. Speer.[4]

On June 2nd, another group of the Democratic Party of Bibb County convened at Concert Hall and heard addresses by Eugenius A. Nisbet and Barney Hill on the necessity for sending delegates to the Baltimore Convention for the purpose of consolidating the Democratic Party on a satisfactory platform and candidates. The following resolution was adopted: "that this meeting of National Democrats, believing and hoping that the dissension which prevailed at Charleston may be amicably adjusted by wise and prudential counsels at the Baltimore Convention, will appoint seventeen delegates to attend the session of the Convention in Milledgeville on the 4th instance,—not for the purpose of taking seats in said Convention, but in the event of failure by said Convention to appoint delegates to the Baltimore Convention; or in the event of the appointment of delegates to the Richmond Convention with instructions to go to Baltimore on certain conditions only,—then the delegation from this County be and they are hereby instructed to act in concert with such portions of said Milledgeville Convention, and any others who may be associated with them as National Democrats, in the appointment of a delegation to represent the National Democrats of Georgia in the Baltimore Convention, and that said delegates have power to appoint substitutes in case they cannot attend."[5]

The list of delegates appointed by this group included Leroy Napier, Cicero Tharpe, Redding Minchew, Nathan Bass, H. C. Caffey, James W. Armstrong, Henry J. Lamar, Samuel B. Hunter, William F. Wilburn, Barnard Hill, Pulaski S. Holt, William C. Wilson, R. Einstein, Lewis S. Avant, A. B. Adams, George Mead, and John Jaugstetter.

The State Convention assembled at Milledgeville on June 4th and by a two-thirds vote sustained the action of the seceders at Charleston and reappointed them to the Richmond Convention with instructions to attend the Baltimore Convention also. However, if certain contingencies were not complied with, they were instructed to again withdraw and to attend the Richmond Convention. The minority report

4. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
5. Macon Daily Telegraph.

recommended the appointment of twenty delegates to the Baltimore Convention, with certain conditions also, the adoption of which they were instructed to secure from the Convention. Thus, Georgia was represented at both Conventions by two sets of delegates. The Richmond Convention met and adjourned in order to await the actions of the Baltimore Convention. The Georgia delegation to Baltimore was not admitted on the grounds that it was appointed by a minority at the State Convention. Efforts to unify the two Conventions were again attempted, but met with failure. The Richmond Convention then nominated John C. Breckenridge for president and Joseph Lane for vice-president. The Baltimore Convention nominated Stephen A. Douglas for president and Herschel V. Johnson, of Georgia, for vice-president, although Georgia was not represented in the Convention.

Two other parties in the meantime had held National Conventions. The Republican Party met in Chicago on May 20th and nominated Abraham Lincoln for president and Hanibal Hamlin for vice-president. The American Party assembled in Baltimore on May 9th under the name of the Constitutional Union Party and adopted a platform whose only plank was the full support of the Constitution and the laws of the land. This group nominated John Bell, from Tennessee, for president, and Edward Everett, of Massachusetts, for vice-president.[6]

When news of the nomination of Breckenridge and Lane reached Macon, a large public meeting was held at the Court House at which speeches were made and a celebration held endorsing the nomination. A display of fireworks added color to the affair and one hundred guns were fired in honor of the occasion. Political organizations were formed in support of all the candidates with the exception of Lincoln and the main topic of conversation everywhere was the possible outcome of the coming election.

To add to the political activity, the city was visited on October 31st by Stephen A. Douglas, his wife, and a party of friends, including Alexander H. Stephens. A large gathering poured into the city from surrounding territory to hear politics discussed by these two celebrated leaders. In a reception at the Lanier House, both Douglas and Stephens were introduced to their many followers during the morning while during the afternoon they were escorted to the passenger depot which had been prepared for the speaking ceremonies. A crowd estimated at over five thousand gathered inside the depot and on the streets along the front and sides of the depot to hear the two "little giants". At 2:00 P.M., Judge Eugenius A. Nisbet introduced Mr. Stephens who spoke for an hour and a half reviewing the political problems of the two great sections; advising calmness and deliberation of action, and recommending cooperation in the preservation of the

6. Bassett: A Short History of the United States.

Union. Mr. Douglas followed Stephens and spoke until five o'clock. He complimented Stephens and endorsed most of his views. He vigorously defended the "squatter sovereignty" theory. He attacked secession and argued with force against it as a constitutional right. His speech was simple but forceful and was well received by the large throng although many were personally opposed to his views.[7]

On November 7th, the election took place throughout the country. With four candidates in the race, the confusion in Georgia was almost as great as it was in the nation at large. The vote of the State gave Breckenridge 51,893, Bell 42,855, and Douglas 11,580. There were no votes for Lincoln. In Bibb County, 2002 votes were cast which gave Bell 884, Breckenridge 812, and Douglas 306. The votes of all of the States resulted in 1,866,452 for Lincoln; 1,375,157 for Douglas; 847,953 for Breckenridge, and 590,631 for Bell. Although not receiving a majority of the popular vote, Lincoln had 180 out of 303 electoral votes which was more than sufficient for election.[8]

Governor Brown was so indignant over the election of Lincoln that he advised the legislature to refuse to go through with a task which could not change the results of the election. However, that body went ahead and chose the Breckenridge electors in performance of their constitutional duties.[9]

Civic and political leaders of Macon realized that the South had very little chance of winning the election with the Democratic Party torn asunder. On the very day of the election, a public meeting of the citizens of the city was held for the purpose of taking such measures as were deemed feasible to secure their political and domestic welfare in view of the election of Abraham Lincoln as president. The meeting was presided over by Washington Poe, who urged calmness and deliberation but at the same time advised firmness and determination in the action of the meeting. A committee of ten was appointed to report business for the meeting, and after several hours of deliberation, the following report was submitted by Captain Robert A. Smith: "The original thirteen states of the United States were organized out of the thirteen distinct colonies of Great Britain, wholly separate and independent of each other; and when they separated from the mother country, they did it as separate confederated communities, and were in the treaty of peace so recognized by the King, for he treated with them by name, as thirteen distinct sovereign powers.

"These powers, or separate nations, confederated and united by treaty and alliance for their mutual defense, conceding to each other as a whole certain specified powers, but never surrendering the one to the other, or one part to the other part of the Confederacy, their

7. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
8. Bassett: A Short History of the United States.
9. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

sovereignty; hence they continued as United States or sovereign confederated powers, and of course absolute equals without regard to size or population. The government which they formed for the Confederacy was only their agency to protect weak communities, not a government for their populations where majorities ruled; for had it been so, the six largest states would now be entitled to govern all the rest, for these have a greater population than all the balance united. The sovereigns were composed solely of white men, and they formed governments only for white men.

"Blacks were numerous amongst them all, but were everywhere regarded not only as servile subordinates, but as chattel property, and were so recognized by the laws of all and each of the confederates, and so treated as commodities of commerce in the constitution of the confederacy, and in all treaties between them and foreign powers. But slave labor soon proving unprofitable in the inhospitable climate of the North, the slaves were transferred further South and slavery was prohibited by the states North. And no sooner was this done, than these states commenced, and have continued their aggressions upon the states further south; and this they did avowedly to lessen the political power of the South, and enhance their own. This was boldly proclaimed by their great leader, Senator Rufus King, upon the floor of the Senate. The men of that day were too magnanimous and manly to conceal their designs under the hypocritical mantle of philanthropy.

"That the Southern people have suffered and are suffering from the North, wrongs too grievous to be borne, let facts be submitted to the just judgment of a candid world.

"After the South had voluntarily surrendered to them the vast empire northwest of the Ohio, they insisted upon prohibition of slavery west of the Mississippi and kept Missouri out of the Union until they forced the South unwisely to consent to a compromise by surrendering to them territory enough for twelve states, and retain to herself territory only enough for three; and yet after enjoying its benefits, they have ever since repudiated the obligations of that Compromise whenever it might inure to the benefit of the South.

"Their citizens without rebuke and without punishment from their tribunals, have for a long series of years stolen and carried away our slaves; when we have asked for redress, they have replied with mockery. They have by their state legislature nullified within their borders the most explicit injunctions of the Federal compact binding them to surrender fugitive slaves, and their Courts have sustained such unconstitutional laws. Their citizens have uniformly robbed, maltreated, and in several instances put to death Southern citizens who were seeking to reclaim their lost or stolen property within their dominion,

and in no instance have the wrong doers been tried or punished by their tribunals.

"Their citizens have in several instances come within the slave-holding states and stolen and carried away our slaves, and their Governors have refused to surrender on demand the felons as fugitives from justice on the ground that it can be no crime to steal a slave. Sixty-eight of their prominent members of Congress have without rebuke subscribed for, patronized, and encouraged the publication and the circulation of a book that recommends to the slaves the indiscriminate massacre of their masters and the re-enactment of the horrors of St. Domingo upon our wives and daughters.

"The notorious thief and murderer, John Brown, with his band of assassins, failing to effect such a massacre and paying the penalty of the law with his life,—is canonized as a saint by many of the presses, pulpits, and thousands of their citizens, and no mark of censure is branded upon them but rather approbation and increased patronage. They have driven out citizens by hired assassins with Sharp's rifles, out of our common territory, purchased with the blood and treasure of our citizens, and then to deceive the world, have pretended such territory was not adopted to slave labor, when it is notorious that such labor is more profitable in states bordering on such territory than in any other part of the country.

"They have prohibited the common hospitality of civilized nations to our citizens traveling through or visiting in their states by taking from them their domestic servants who may be in attendance upon their sick families, while citizens from the North annually travel through and remain in the South, unmolested with whatever servants they may prefer.

"They have expelled our citizens from their most populous churches as too impure for their communion. They have crowned their long series of insult and wrong by putting over us without our aid and in contempt of our protest and remonstrance,—a man, as president, whose sole claim to their popular regard is his avowed pledge to maintain an "irrepressible conflict" for our destruction. It therefore becomes our duty, a duty which we owe to ourselves, our country, and our posterity, to arrest these aggressions and take prompt and effectual measures for the protection of our rights. Therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the Senator and Representatives of the county of Bibb be requested at the earliest possible day to introduce into the Legislature of Georgia a bill for the speedy call of a Convention of the people of the state to take such action and devise such measures as will protect themselves and families from impending ruin.

"Resolved, That our Senator and Representative be requested to

introduce and support a bill for the procuring of a sufficiency of good arms to every male citizen subject to military duty.

"Resolved, That we recommend to our fellow-citizens of Georgia in every county, to proceed at once to organize and arm themselves as well as they may be able for their protection against impending dangers."

The report was signed by Samuel T. Bailey, Robert A. Smith, Charles J. Harris, Lewis N. Whittle, John B. Lamar, Joel R. Branham, Edward L. Strohecker, J. H. R. Washington, James Mercer Green, and T. R. Bloom.[10] This committee recommended also the adoption of resolutions calling for the organization of "committees of safety", and for the immediate organization of "Minute Men." All of the report and recommendations were re-read and adopted section by section amidst deafening applause and spirited enthusiasm. Two days later, a Constitution organizing the Minute Men was adopted and put into effect.

Secession Talk

There had been repeated threats in Georgia and throughout the South that if Lincoln were elected, the Southern states would be forced to secede. Two schools of thought in regard to secession existed. One was that the Southern states should cooperate and secede together while the other held that each state should act for itself when it was ready. Now that Lincoln's election was assured and secession the topic of the day, quick action was necessary. If cooperation were attempted, there would undoubtedly be delay and the excitement might subside. Thus, the radical secessionists opposed cooperation while the unionists were in favor of it. However, the problem of which course to pursue was settled when South Carolina set the pattern by separate state action on December 20th.

Many Georgians and Maconites were anxious to take quick and separate action, and Georgia would have seceded even before South Carolina if they had had their way. Governor Brown in his message to the legislature which convened on November 8th, the day after the election, bitterly condemned the Northern states and called for quick action. He would make no attempt to call a convention of all of the Southern states since this would involve a great lapse of time and some might not be represented. Instead, he would recommend a state convention to devise plans for protecting Georgia against the further aggressions of an enemy, which, when flushed with victory, will be even more insolent in their hour of triumph. He recommended the immediate appropriation of $1,000,000 for arming the state and made a "call to arms",—no more concession and no more compromise. "Argument is exhausted. Action is now needed," he stated.

10. Macon Daily Telegraph.

Confronted with the necessity of making such a momentous decision in a dispute so long drawn out that it was almost a habit of thought, many Georgians were stunned and hesitant, but leaders soon arose on all sides. Out of the red hills of North Georgia came Thomas R. R. Cobb to the state capitol at Milledgeville, and on November 12th, this new political figure charmed the legislature with his secession oratory. On the next day, Robert Toombs added his booming voice to secession measures. W. L. Harris, a commissioner from Mississippi, brought reassurances from his state. Robert B. Rhett, from South Carolina, and Edmund Ruffin, of Virginia, urged Georgia to act. Amidst this demand for secession was heard the squeaky voice but sound counsel of sickly Alexander H. Stephens, who requested that the legislature not stampede the state out of a Union which the South had made and which was still the South's greatest protection.[11]

Political excitement was the keynote of the day. All over the state, counties held public meetings and most of them passed resolutions calling upon the legislature for action. With such an avalanche of public opinion upon them, the legislature enacted a bill requiring the people to vote for delegates on January 2nd and calling for a state convention in Milledgeville on January 16th for the purpose of determining what future course Georgia should pursue. The legislature also acted favorably on Governor Brown's other recommendation and accordingly appropriated $1,000,000 for state defense, authorized the acceptance of a force of 10,000 troops, and provided for the organization of volunteer companies throughout the state and of arming them. It also made the suggestion that a Southern confederacy be formed if other Southern states should secede.

Local patriotism and secession sentiment was running high in Macon. The Macon Volunteers on November 20th ran up a new flag atop their Armory which displayed only fifteen stars and the coat of arms of Georgia. The Jackson Artillery went even further. They staged a parade, exhibiting a new flag with fifteen stars, also, and their standard carried the old coat of arms of Georgia, "The Snake," and the motto: "Noli me Tangere."[12]

During the month of December, heated political activity continued as public meetings were held all over Georgia for the purpose of campaigning for and against the election of delegates to the state convention. It was popular to talk in favor of secession, and the movement for it grew stronger. Several Congressmen from the slaveholding states issued a statement on December 13th declaring that there was no Union and that the South could save its honor only by seceding. Howell Cobb resigned his post as Secretary of the Treasury, which he held in Buchanan's cabinet, and returned to Georgia where he started cam-

11. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.
12. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

paigning for secession. Robert Toombs, Thomas R. R. Cobb, Wilson Lumpkin, and many others spoke actively for the state to vindicate its honor. All spoke along the general line of the insults perpetrated against the South by the North and their denial of the rights of the South; of Lincoln's action in liberating the slaves; of the fact that secession would likely be peaceable and that the South could make better terms on the outside than on the inside. Governor Brown spoke vigorously for secession. Peculiarly representing the non-slaveholders of Georgia, the Governor sought to frighten them into secession by telling them that if the slaves should be set free, then the United States would have to raise $2,000,000,000 through taxes to pay for them; that the former slave owners would receive this money with which they could buy up all the land and make tenants of the small farmers; that if the liberated negroes were colonized, that would take even more money which the taxpayers must pay; and, if the negroes were not colonized, then they would remain to compete with the laboring white people, and would demand social, political, and economic equality. Brown also declared that secession would not bring war as President Buchanan had already stated that the United States had no authority to coerce a state.[13]

Many colorful speeches were made in Macon during this period. Washington Poe and Judge Eugenius A. Nisbet addressed the newly organized Minute Men and a large public gathering on December 1st. Robert Toombs spoke for more than two hours on the 3rd, and Thomas R. R. Cobb delivered a stirring address to the Minute Men at Concert Hall on December 8th. The Hall was packed and overflowing and Mr. Cobb held the attention of his audience for almost five hours.

There were many who spoke against severing the bonds of union. To combat the arguments of the secessionists, Alexander H. Stephens, Benjamin H. Hill, Herschel V. Johnson, and others pointed out that secession would likely bring on the bloodiest war in history; that the mere election of Lincoln was not sufficient cause for such a radical move; and that the Republicans could pass no hostile legislation since they lacked thirty votes of controlling the House and four of controlling the Senate.

During this campaign of heated political fervor, South Carolina seceded. There is no doubt that the excitement and effect of this event aided the secession movement. In Macon, one hundred guns were fired amidst the ringing of bells and the shouts and applause of the people. At night, a procession of approximately two thousand citizens was formed. Various banners, posters, and streamers in favor of secession were displayed. and the group paraded while all of the bells of the city were ringing and another deafening salute of guns

13. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

was given. In Atlanta, there was a balloon ascension, cannon were fired from noon to nightfall, and when darkness came, a torchlight procession kept up the celebration. Similar demonstrations occurred throughout the Southland.

On December 14th, a large public meeting was held in Macon for the purpose of nominating candidates to attend the state convention. Calling this meeting was a long list of indivduals who signed their names as "citizens of Macon in favor of the South against Lincoln's administration and of immediate secession by Georgia from an abolitionist Union." Included among the signatories were Eugenius A. Nisbet, Henry Lamar, A. M. Speer, Washington Poe, John J. Gresham, Clifford Anderson, E. L. Strohecker, Simri Rose, L. N. Whittle, W. B. Parker, John J. Jones, George Payne, R. S. Lanier, J. L. Nichols, C. J. Williamson, D. S. Driggers, J. T. Bass, Julius Peter, James V. Greer, J. D. VanValkenburg, E. Winship, E. P. Strong, James Kenan, R. H. Mason, C. D. Findlay, J. S. Duckworth, J. M. Ells, J. A. McManus, H. Jones, Peter Sawyer, J. H. Brantley, J. M. Green, W. T. Massey, G. M. Logan, M. R. Freeman, E. Blackshear, C. B. Stone, J. H. Josey, C. J. Roosevelt, G. C. Conner, A. Goolsby, G. W. Ross, J. Clisby, Leroy Napier, Jr., George W. Price, James Smith, John Kelley, George H. Hazlehurst, and others.[14]

On January 2nd, delegates were selected throughout the state and the vote of the people disclosed that those who favored action were in the majority by a vote of 50,000 to 37,000. The slaveholders and townspeople were the chief supporters of the secession movement, whereas most of the mountaineers and pine barrens settlers cast their support for the Union. Elected to represent Macon and Bibb County at the convention were Eugenius A. Nisbet, Washington Poe, and John B. Lamar. All three of these distinguished citizens were prominently identified with the many phases of the city's, as well as the state's activities, and their selection was in keeping with the high calibre of delegates in general who represented the state in the convention. John C. Butler in his "Historical Record of Macon and Central Georgia" summarizes the qualifications of the three men as follows:

"Colonel Lamar was a gentleman of the noblest type of honor and chivalry, refined in manners, and highly educated. He had served in the Legislature and had been elected to Congress. The honors of office were forced upon him contrary to his inclinations. Possessing much wealth, he preferred the ease of private life to the honors of any public office. He was devoted to the works of the standard authors, and being giftel with a bright mind, he acquired high literary attainments. He was a most interesting and perspicuous writer, and his contributions upon various subjects attracted complimentary attention. Though

14 Macon Daily Telegraph.

possessing a great determination of character, he was noted for his modesty, which was of female delicacy. The most distinguished quality in his noble nature was his unostentatious benevolence. No man ever lived in the community who had been more generous to the poor. He was also liberal to several important benevolent institutions and to the church, and exercised a deep interest in their success.

Contrary to the urgent solicitations of his friends, who thought his services to his country more valuable at home, he entered the Army of Virginia as Aid to his brother-in-law, General Howell Cobb. On the 16th of September, 1862, during the battle at Crampton's Gap, where two thousand Confederates heroically held the pass against fifteen thousand Federals, in riding alone through a storm of the enemy's bullets to deliver an important command, a fatal minnie ball pierced his left breast, and he poured forth his blood as freely as he had patriotically appropriated his purse, for the Confederate cause.

"Eugenius A. Nisbet, before his removal from Morgan county to Macon in 1837, had already acquired a state reputation as a published scholar, learned in the law, and a prudent statesman. He was at this time but thirty-four years of age, and had served four terms in the House and three in the Senate of his state, and was one of the most influential members in either branch of the Assembly. At the session of the Senate in 1830, he, in a masterly speech, advocated the establishment of a Supreme Court. Though the bill was lost at that time, it was renewed in 1845 and passed. Mr. Nisbet was elected one of the Justices on the organization of the court, and on the expiration of his term was re-elected. In 1838, he was elected to Congress, and on the very opening of that body, he made his maiden speech on the New Jersey contested election, which gave him a high reputation in Congress and in the country. Personal embarrassments arising from a debt upon which he had become surety induced him to resign his seat in Congress, and to devote his labors to the practice of law. He was fond of literature, and as familiar with the writings of the most eminent authors as he was with the intricacies of the law, and, probably delivered more literary addresses and wrote more literary articles for the leading papers than any other lawyer in the state. In politics, he belonged to the Jeffersonian school. He had been an advocate of the Union and the constitutional rights of the states. In 1860, he supported Mr. Douglas for the presidency, and favored some system of cooperation, in the hope that the Union might be spared the horrors of civil war. When the last hope disappeared, he submitted to the will of his native state, and introduced the ordinance of secession. He was one of the delegates representing his state in the first Congress at Montgomery and at Richmond. After the close of the war, he continued the practice of law until his health, worn out by a long and

laborious life, began to fail, when he retired from the practice, and death soon followed. He professed religion in early life, and was made a ruling Elder in the Presbyterian Church in Madison, and, on his removal to Macon in 1837, was made an Elder of the same church in Macon, which office he held until his death. He was frequently superintendent of the Sunday School and teacher of the Bible Class, and a delegate to the Presbyterian Synods and General Assemblies. He was an early advocate of a high standard of education, and was a trustee of the State University, at which institution he had graduated, bearing off the honors of his class. The degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by both the State and Mercer Universities. He died in March, 1871.



Washington Poe, one of the outstanding political figures in Macon during the War Between the States period.

Courtesy of Mrs. Viola Ross Napier

"Washington Poe settled in Macon in 1825, just two years after the trees of the forests were felled to build the town. Among the early lawyers at the Macon bar with Mr. Poe was Oliver H. Prince, John W. Campbell, Christopher B. Strong, Edward D. Tracy, and Charles J. McDonald. They were all men of high character and distinguished for their varied intellectual talents. Mr. Poe survived them all. Of all the members of the Macon bar, or the bar of the Flint Circuit, Mr. Poe commanded the largest share of practice for the longest time. He was an indefatigable worker, and until his health began to fail a few years before his lamented death, he was laboring as industriously in his office as at any period of his life. Two years after his arrival in Macon, he was chosen Intendant of the growing town, and the administration of his first office was marked with that inflexible respect for the majesty of the law and the impartial application of its requirements that ever characterized the various offices that he so worthily filled. In 1831, he was elected Solicitor of the circuit. It was at this notorious period that lawlessness was rife in Macon. There was a band of adventurers headed by sharp and desperate men. Riotousness flourished. Murders were committed and the assassination of the officers of the law was commonly threatened. The peace of society was disturbed and alarms pervaded the community. Mr. Poe, in his calm and dignified manner, but with all the firmness and eloquence for which he was distinguished, assailed before the courts these straggling transgressors of the law. He had taken a solemn oath as Solicitor General to prosecute the violators of the law, and he regarded that his failure to comply with that oath was an act of perjury and as great a sin as if he had been the perpetrator of the crime, or offense, committed. Threats at his own life did not deter him from his duty. On several occasions where the sheriff was intimidated from making arrests, the Solicitor, always unarmed himself, accompanied that officer to the armed lodgings of the trespasser, and without violence, secured his arrest. During the election riot in 1840, when a party of excited men broke through the windows of the basement of the Court House, overpowered the managers, and destroyed the ballot box, Mr. Poe was Mayor of the city. He at once addressed the excited multitude, urging them to dispel all excitement and aid him in the exercise of his municipal authority. By prompt and determined action, he quelled the disturbance, and, without the use of a weapon, brought every unfortunate disturber of the peace to confinement, to await his trial before the proper court. The brandishing of weapons and the threats of assassination had no effect upon the Mayor. He had been inured to danger in the discharge of his solemn duty, and was unknown to fear."

Mr. Poe was a citizen of Macon and a practitioner of law for more than half a century. As a citizen, he and Mr. Simri Rose, when others

had passed away, were regarded the two remaining fathers of the city, and there is not a single year of that long period in which he saw two generations of useful citizens pass away, that the press of the city had not chronicled his name in honored association with many of the rising institutions, enterprises, and events of interest in the course of its history. He was a natural orator, brilliant, and impressive. In state or other conventions in which his counsel was so often sought as a delegate, he was among the leading members in discussion upon the floor, or in arranging the most important business in the committee room. In 1844, he was elected to Congress but to the deep regret of his constituency he resigned his office as pressing business demanded his presence at home. He would have creditably filled any office in the gift of his state, but the duties of his profession and his domestic attachments prevailed over the allurements of public honors which his numerous friends had often urged him to accept. His speech before the Georgia Convention of 1850 at Milledgeville which was so highly applauded throughout the state at the time was but one of the many he had delivered, so characteristic of his elegance of style, purity of thought, and finished argument. His writings were clear, forcible, and ornate. In 1828, he became a member of the Presbyterian Church and was made an Elder the next year, in which capacity he continued until the day of his mournful death, October 1, 1876, having passed his seventy-sixth birthday on the 13th of July preceding.

"His connections with his church dated almost with its origin. In 1826, he was instrumental in the foundation of the first Bible Society in Macon, and delivered an address in its behalf. His early life was a link in the chain that connected the present with the last century. He was a participant in the exercises in the first Court House, a small wooden room on Mulberry Street, in honor of the memory of Jefferson and Adams, who died July 4th, 1826, and in that room, he was employed in the trial of the first murder case in the county. He was active in the organization of the first schools, churches, railroads, and nearly every other institution that the city had enjoyed—a history of his life and his experience would be a history of Macon. Apart from his family circle, there is no place in his busy life where he is more missed than in the church and its prayer-room, where he and his beloved brother member in the eldership, Judge Nisbet, so long worshipped and aided in teaching the Divine Word, and by their exemplary conduct, vindicated the sincerity of their profession."

The Georgia State Convention met on January 16th in Milledgeville, and never before had the state been able to bring together so completely its leadership. Almost every political figure of note had been included in the convention excepting Governor Brown, Howell Cobb, and C. J. Jenkins, and these three were invited by the con-

vention to take seats in it. Three hundred and one delegates attended the affair. The names of George W. Crawford and Alexander H. Stephens were proposed as permanent president. Mr. Stephens withdrew his own name and proposed that the nomination of Mr. Crawford be unanimously affirmed. This was accomplished. Albert R. Lamar was then elected secretary for the convention. A committee of three was appointed to wait upon James L. Orr and John G. Shorter, commissioners from the states of South Carolina and Alabama respectively, and invite them to seats on the floor. Influences hidden and open, set to work as soon as the convention was organized. The battle against secession seemed lost at the very outset, but Stephens, Hill, and Johnson sought to stay its progress by recommending that a convention of all of the Southern states be held for the purpose of determining future action. The move was voted dwon 166 to 130. The personal influence and respect which was held for these three men were partly responsible for the closeness of the vote.

Communications were read through the commissioners of the states of South Carolina and Alabama explaining the causes that led to the secession of those states and inviting the cooperation of Georgia. On motion of Mr. Stephens, the commissioners were invited to address the convention, which they did in a speech of half an hour, both recommending the cooperation of Georgia in the formation of a Southern Confederacy. Eugenius A. Nisbet, of Macon, then proposed that a committee be appointed to report an ordinance to assert the rights and fulfill the obligation of the state of Georgia to secede from the Union.[15] After some lively discussion, his proposal was adopted and he was named chairman of the committee.

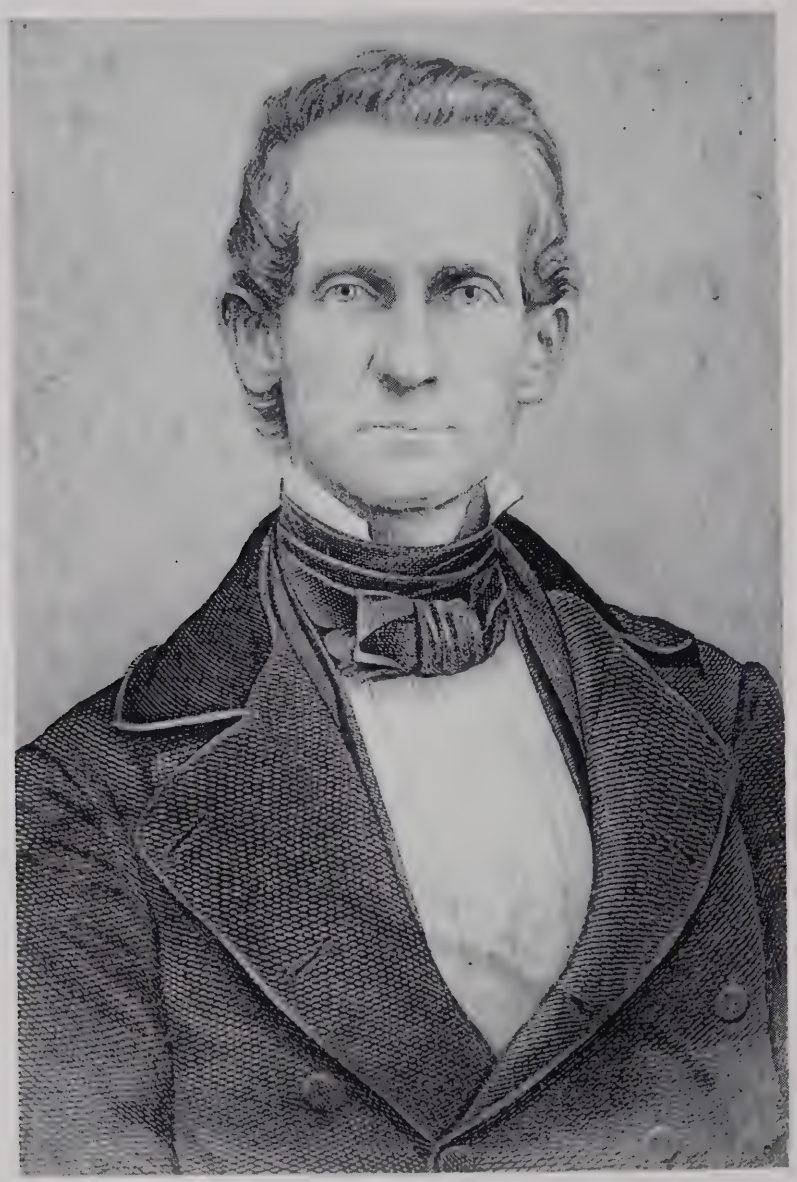
Georgia Secedes From The Union

On January 19th, Judge Nisbet submitted the following ordinance of secession to the convention: "An Ordinance to dissolve the union between the state of Georgia and other states united with her under a compact of government entitled the 'Constitution of the United States'.

"We, the people of the state of Georgia, in convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained, that the ordinance adopted by the people of the state of Georgia in the Convention of 1788, whereby the Constitution of the United States was ratified and adopted, and also all Acts and part of Acts of the General Assembly, ratifying and adopting amendments to said Constitution, are hereby repealed, rescinded, and abrogated.

"We do further declare and ordain, that the union now subsisting between the state of Georgia and the other states under the title of

15. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.



Eugenius A. Nisbet, Macon jurist, introduced the Ordinance of Secession at Georgia Convention.

Courtesy of Mrs. Wingfield Nisbet

the United States of America is hereby dissolved, and that the state of Georgia is in the full possession and exercise of all those rights of sovereignty which belong and appertain to a free and independent state."

The ordinance was then voted upon and passed by a vote of 208 to 89. The convention president then declared that Georgia was now

a free, sovereign and independent state. Linton Stephens then offered a brief preamble and resolutions as follows: "Resolved, that all members of this convention, including those who voted against said Ordinance, as well as those who voted for it, will sign as a pledge, the unanimous determination of this convention to sustain and defend the State in this, her chosen remedy, with all its responsibilities and consequences, without regard to individual approval or disapproval of its adoption." All of the members then signed the Ordinance as it passed, with the exception of six, who differed as to the mode of action, but pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor to the support of the state. The objects of the convention were therefore declared unanimously agreed to.

At 2:30 P.M., the firing of a gun from the capitol grounds and the hoisting of the flag of Georgia on the flag staff of the capitol announced to the people the passage of the ordinance of secession. The city was in a rapturous state of emotion. Tears of joy fell from many eyes and enthusiastic announcement of the news spread like wildfire. The artillery from the capitol square fired several salvos and throughout the city bells pealed forth a joyous welcome to the new-born Republic.

A momentous decision had been made. Georgia had declared herself an independent republic. However, it was not her intent to remain aloof. On the 23rd of January, the convention elected delegates to represent the state of Georgia in a Congress of seceded states to meet at Montgomery, Alabama on February 4th. The representatives elected included Robert Toombs, Francis S. Bartow, Martin J. Crawford, Eugenius A. Nisbet, Benjamin H. Hill, Howell Cobb, Alexander H. Stephens, Thomas R. R. Cobb, Augustus R. Wright, and Augustus H. Kenan. These delegates were instructed to cooperate with the other seceding states in the organization of a temporary government, not to exceed beyond a period of twelve months, and to be modeled as nearly as practicable along the principles of the government of the United States of America. Georgia's delegates took a leading part in organizing the new government. Howell Cobb became president of the convention. Thomas R. R. Cobb was largely responsible for writing the Confederate constitution. Robert Toombs was prominently considered for the presidency of the Confederacy, and Stephens, by consistently declining the invitation of his friends, escaped becoming president only to find himself in the role of vice-president. General Jefferson Davis was elected president of the new government after a constitution had been adopted on February 8th. He was not a candidate for the office, and was at his home in Mississippi at the time that the honor was conferred upon him. He had expressed preference for another office,—the command of the army of the states.[16] A constitution for

16. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

the permanent government was adopted unanimously by seven states on March 11th, and Mr. Davis was inaugurated President of the Confederate States of America at Montgomery on March 18th. Prior to the Montgomery convention, all of Georgia's representatives to the United States Congress had tendered their resignation.

In the meantime, another startling event occurred in South Carolina which produced intense excitement throughout the South. There was an understanding between Governor Pickens, of South Carolina, and President Buchanan that no hostile operations would be undertaken on the waters around Charleston where several forts were located. Consequently, every courtesy had continued to be shown by the people of Charleston to Major Anderson, the United States commandant of the garrison at Fort Moultrie. Despite this, on the night of December 25th, Major Anderson spiked the guns, burned down the fort, and removed his command of ninety-eight men to Fort Sumter. This was the first act of a destructive nature committed.[17] The South considered it almost as a declaration of war. They complained in a respectful communication to the President of the action of Major Anderson, and requested an explanation of his unexpected conduct. The President gave no satisfactory explanation. His reply was evasive. He stated that while Major Anderson had no orders to remove his garrison to Fort Sumter, it was in his discretion to make the change. He refused to remove the troops from Fort Sumter. General Floyd, who was Secretary of War, resigned his post stating that his department had been dishonored by the duplicity of the government. South Carolina began to increase the defenses along her coast, and her legislature notified the United States government that any attempt to reinforce Fort Sumter would be met with resistance.

Georgia, with Governor Brown showing unusual leadership and initiative, was quick to act, in securing its property from United States possession. The most important Federal fortification in Georgia was Fort Pulaski on the Savannah River below Savannah. On January 3rd, Governor Brown arrived in Savannah and ordered a corps of one hundred and fifty members of the city's military forces under Major A. R. Lawton to seize Fort Pulaski and take command of other strategic defenses in that area. The Fort was unoccupied but contained ammunition and several cannon. This action was considered necessary in view of the fact that a United States vessel of war, the Harriet Lane, had attempted to reinforce the garrison at Fort Sumter. When she came within range of one of the South Carolina defense batteries, a shot was fired across her bow to notify that her action was considered an intrusion. She then hoisted the colors of the United States and continued toward the Fort. A barrage of shots were immediately fired

17. Butler: Historical Record of Macon

at her, two of them finding their mark and causing damage. She then turned around and fled out of range. It is believed that she would have gone to Savannah afterwards had not the Georgians anticipated her intentions.

Macon business firms figured in a second incident which disclosed Governor Brown's aggressive patriotism toward his cause. On January 22nd, the Governor of New York ordered the State Police of New York to seize 200 rifles and a large amount of arms and ammunition belonging to Macon firms. Brown demanded that Governor E. D. Morgan of New York surrender this property immediately. His request was unanswered and unheeded. As soon as he could establish the fact that the New York Governor had received his request, Brown seized five vessels in Savannah harbor belonging to citizens of New York and ordered them held until the Georgia property was released. This brought about the desired results. News was sent to Brown that the guns had been released whereupon he allowed the vessels to sail away. However, later developments showed that Georgia had been tricked. The guns were still held in New York. Brown immediately seized two other New York vessels in Savannah and set a date for them to be sold at auction. Before the date arrived, New York had released the shipment and the guns were finally delivered in Macon.[18]

Still another incident revealed good judgment and foresight on the part of Governor Brown. The United States continued in possession of the arsenal at Augusta. On January 22nd, the Governor arrived there and demanded the surrender of this property. To emphasize his demand, he ordered the appearance of eight hundred Georgia troops. Captain Arnold Elzey was the United States commander of the arsenal and was instructed by Washington to make the best possible terms. Having no force with which to defend the arsenal, he surrendered it, with honor to all, on the 24th. This was a valuable gain for Georgia and the South since the arsenal was stocked with 22,000 rifles, heavy artillery, and supplies of ammunition and powder.

The United States flag was lowered and the Georgia flag, a white field with a lone red star in the center, was run up while artillery fired a salute. Governor Brown gave a receipt for the property in the arsenal so that a just settlement might be later made. Captain Elzey and Colonel W. H. T. Walker, to whom he surrendered, concluded the exercises by embracing each other and drinking toasts. Elzey became so impressed with the Georgian's cause that he later cast his lot with them and became an officer in the Confederate forces.

Although South Carolina had seceded and many other Southern states were holding conventions to consider secession, there was still some hope in Congress that a compromise might be affected by which

18. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

the South would agree to remain in the union. A committee of thirteen was appointed in the Senate to draw up a plan of compromise. Many plans and suggestions were referred to them, the most notable being one known as "the Crittenden Compromise", which was proposed by Senator Crittenden, of Kentucky. It suggested an extension of the old Missouri Compromise line permitting slavery in all of the new territory South and excluding it North of that line, and returning fugitive slaves to their owners. Thousands of petitions from all sections of the country, particularly from the most populous cities, were sent to Congress, urging the members to adopt the resolutions. However, the petitions were ignored and the resolutions were spurned by Congress. Crittenden continued his efforts for compromise, and on January 3rd, he requested the Senate to authorize a vote by the people on the proposed resolutions. Douglas supported him in a masterly address. But the proposal never came to a vote in the Senate. The Republican senators delayed its consideration so long that the cotton states seceded and then it was not thought practicable to push it further. Had the vote by the people been taken, it is believed that it would have been overwhelmingly approved, and the war temporarily averted. It is doubtful, however, if it would have solved the problem permanently.[19]

Thomas Hardeman, Macon representative from this district in Congress, wrote to his friends here that his last hope for a reconciliation had vanished; that the House had refused to consider the resolutions or to even have them printed. He urged Georgia to act in cooperation with the other Southern states for their mutual protection.[20]

The last and final effort to arrange some sort of compromise which might avert war was made on February 11 when delegates from twenty-two states assembled in Washington to hold a peace convention. Ex-president Tyler, a delegate from Virginia, presided over the proceedings which were kept secret. After much debating the group finally adopted a constitutional amendment, but it was less favorable to the South than the Crittenden proposal and came to an inglorious defeat in the Senate.

Lincoln was inaugurated President of the United States on March 4th succeeding Buchanan. Davis was inaugurated President of the Confederate States of America on March 18th. Shortly after his inauguration, President Davis, in accordance with an act of the Confederate Congress, sent three commissioners to Washington for the purpose of effecting friendly relations between the two governments, and adjusting all differences between them. These commissioners, as soon as Lincoln completed selecting his Cabinet, addressed a communi-

19. Bassett: A Short History of the United States.
20. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

cation to Seward, who had been named Secretary of State, informing him of the object of their mission. Seward made no reply to their message and after an elapse of several days, the commissioners sent their secretary to him requesting a reply. However, no official reply was ever given, although Seward is credited with having stated informally to several members of the Supreme Court that he had a strong disposition toward peace and that it was his desire and that of President Lincoln to avoid a collision between the two governments.

The commissioners continued their efforts toward arranging some sort of conference where the differences of the two governments might be amicably discussed, but without success. Opinions were exchanged between them and Seward through intermediaries, mainly Judges Nelson and Campbell, of the Supreme Court. With his policy of conciliation in view, Seward suggested that the South delay an attack on Fort Sumter, which the commissioners agreed to provided the existing status at Charleston remained unchanged. They were never officially received, but were assured through the intermediaries that Sumter would be evacuated. They remained on in Washington until the latter part of March but there was no evidence of any efforts to evacuate Sumter. On April 7th, they received word that a relief squadron had left New York for the purpose of aiding the garrison at Fort Sumter. They addressed the State Department immediately relative to the authenticity of this report. Seward again refused official dealings with them but sent back a reply through the intermediaries: "Faith as to Sumter fully kept; wait and see". Next day, April 8th, they learned definitely that a relief squadron had left New York bound for Charleston. They also were informed that the Governor of South Carolina had been advised that Sumter would be reinforced—"peaceably, if permitted—otherwise by force". After many unsuccessful efforts to talk with Seward, the commissioners forwarded a final letter to the evasive Secretary of State stating that they had come to Washington on a mission of peace, and among other declarations announced that: "Whatever may be the result, impartial history will record the innocence of the government of the Confederate States, and place the responsibility of the blood and mourning that they may ensue upon those who have denied the great fundamental doctrine of American liberty that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, and who have set naval and land armaments in motion to subject the people of one portion of the land to the will of another portion. Your refusal to entertain these overtures for a peaceful solution, the active naval and military preparations of your government, and a formal notice to the Commanding General of the Confederate forces in the harbor of Charleston that the President intends to provision Fort Sumter by forcible means, if necessary, are viewed by the

undersigned, and can only be received by the world, as a declaration of war against the Confederate States."[21]

Seward had not intentionally deceived the Confederates. He was attempting a policy of delay and his assurances concerning Sumter were given on his own responsibility. His efforts boomeranged because Lincoln had decided that the authority of the union must be asserted regardless of the consequences. It was Lincoln who gave the order to reinforce Sumter, thus overriding Seward's pledges and his policy of conciliation. If Lincoln had given Seward full authority to act, a shifty policy would most likely have been adopted; the Confederacy established beyond the possibility of overthrow; and the union sentiment of the North would have been so dissipated,—that war would have been very doubtful. In this sense, the war between the two sections was Lincoln's war, and the final preservation of the union was the result of Lincoln's actions.[22]

The War Begins

On April 10th, upon the approach of the United States fleet to Charleston Harbor, General Beauregard, who was commander of the Confederate defense forces, requested the surrender of Fort Sumter by Major Anderson. Anderson refused to give up the Fort stating that his sense of honor and obligation to his government prevented his compliance. Beauregard then notified Anderson that if he would state the time that he would evacuate the Fort and agree not to use his guns, unless those of the Confederates were employed, that much bloodshed might be avoided. Again Anderson refused to waver. Accordingly, at daybreak on April 12th, artillery fire was opened upon the Fort by Beauregard and returned by Anderson. For thirty-two hours the bombardment continued. Shortly after noon on April 13th, Major Anderson lowered his flag and the cannonading halted. Major Anderson and his garrison were allowed to remain in the Fort until the following day. They were then given safe transportation to the United States fleet which had anchored outside the harbor just out of range of the Confederate batteries. He was treated with courtesy by the Confederates; was permitted to salute his flag with fifty rounds of fire; and both he and his command were permitted to retain all of their private effects. Not a man on either side was killed, but the Fort was burned and badly battered.[23]

This was actually the first engagement of the war in which both sides participated with gunfire. Prior to the engagement, the magnetic telegraph had announced that the United States fleet was just off Charleston harbor and that their intention was to reinforce Fort

21. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
22. Bassett: A Short History of the United States.
23. Bassett: A Short History of the United States.

Sumter. It was also publicly announced that General Beauregard had been directed by the Confederate government to resist their entrance into the harbor and if Major Anderson refused to evacuate his position, to reduce the Fort. As a result, thousands of people visited Charleston to witness the first battle of the war. Housetops were covered by civilians and the batteries along the harbor were crowded with excited spectators. It was estimated that 50,000 persons viewed the fiery storm of shot and shell that bellowed forth from both sides.[24]

News of the fall of Sumter spread like wildfire through both sections of the country. In the South, the people were jubilant and enthusiastic celebrations took place in every city and village. People in the North were astounded by the news. War appeared inevitable. The Presidents of both sides called for volunteers, and preparations for hostilities were started.

Georgia plunged into the war with as much enthusiasm and determination as any other state in the Confederacy. Wild excitement swept over the state after the fall of Fort Sumter, and thousands of Georgians rushed forward to volunteer their services. From the mountains to the sea, masculine flowerhood of the state responded to the call to arms. Boys at the universities ran away from their classes to join the army, fearing that the war might terminate before they became old enough for action. Old patriots in their sixties and seventies offered their services and misrepresented their ages in order that they might be accepted. Even the mountaineers in North Georgia, who were generally not expected to show enthusiasm, poured out of their mountain retreats, and many companies of the "men from the hills" were organized. As fast as military units were formed and equipped, they were pressed into service with the Confederate armies, although Governor Brown attempted to keep many of them within the state, believing that the interests of Georgia should first be safeguarded. On almost every battlefield, Georgians fought, and before the war ended, the state had sent into the Confederate armies a force estimated at 120,000 men.[25]

Even before the call to arms, the citizens of Macon effectively manifested their loyalty to the cause they espoused by holding public meetings, organizing "minute men", and putting greater emphasis in general upon their military organizations. One military group, the Jackson artillery, offered their services prior to the fall of Fort Sumter, and were ordered on active duty by the Governor of Georgia several months before actual hostilities began. No city or county in the entire Confederacy made any greater contribution in troops and materials in proportion to its population than did Macon and Bibb. A total of twenty-six companies of infantry, artillery, and cavalry represented

24. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
25. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

this city on the many battlefields, and they were deployed from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, and from the Gulf of Mexico into the furthermost point of invasion in Federal territory. All of the principal battles of the war had Macon men as combatants.

It was in Macon that the first Confederate flag to be saluted by a military company in the state of Georgia was made. This was made possible through the handiwork and resourcefulness of Mrs. Thomas Hardeman, prominent and patriotic matron of this city. John C. Butler, in his historical sketch of Macon, described the event as follows:

"On the 4th day of March, 1861, the Confederate Congress, in assembly at Montgomery, Alabama, adopted the 'stars and bars' as the flag of the Confederate States. At three o'clock, P.M., of that day, the first flag of the young Republic was hoisted over the capitol of Alabama, where the Congress was in session, and received an artillery salute. It was on the same day that Mr. Lincoln was inaugurated President at Washington City. The design of the banner was telegraphed throughout the Confederacy, and on the night following the same day, Mrs. Thomas Hardeman, with her accustomed patriotism and energy, devoted her labor the whole of that night to the making of the first flag of the Confederacy, which waved upon Georgia soil. It was presented to the Floyd Rifles early on the morning of the 5th, and thrown to the breeze from their armory (406 Third Street), receiving from the proud recipients the first salute fired in the state in honor of the Confederate colors."

Macon Is Military Center

Macon was also regarded as the strategic center of the Confederacy during the years of the War Between the States. Here was located an arsenal, employing at one time over 500 men in the manufacture of shot and shell; a factory for making swords, matches, wire, and soap; and a depository of the Treasury Department of the Confederacy, having $1,500,000 in gold in its protection.

An arsenal was moved from Savannah to Macon in 1862 under the charge of Colonel R. M. Cuyler, and the extensive establishment and shops of the Findlay Iron Works were used in manufacturing cannon, shot, shell, saddle harness, leather work, and other combat equipment. The twelve pounder Napoleon guns made by the Arsenal were the pride of the army, and the quality of all of the work was of a superior nature. The laboratory and smaller shops turned out smaller weapons and cartridges, while numerous other divisions manufactured such items as swords, buttons, enamelled cloth, matches, soap, and wire. The work turned out by this concern was high testimony to the mechanical skill and ingenuity of the Southerners. Also located near the Arsenal were dozens of storehouses and other buildings which

were occupied for the deposit of a great variety of equipment connected with the ordnance department of the Confederacy.[26]

Because of the strategic and geographical location of Macon, the Treasury Department of the Confederacy also established a Depository here, appointing W. B. Johnston, of this city, receiver of deposits for the treasury. At various times, there was as much as $1,500,000 in gold under the protection of this institution. It was the most important depository in the South, with the exception of a similar one at Richmond, which, being the seat of the Confederate government, was naturally the greatest distributing point. In February, 1864, the Macon depository, during the funding of the first issue of Confederate notes, took in more than $1,500,000 over a seven day period of time.

In addition to Mrs. Thomas Hardeman, many other Macon women demonstrated their patriotism, interest, and loyalty for the Southern cause. Immediately upon the outbreak of the war, on April 27th, 1861, the noble and spirited women of this city organized a society under the title of the "Ladies Soldiers' Relief Society" and elected Mrs. Washington Poe, president; Mrs. Hardeman, vice-president; Miss M. E. Bass, secretary; and Miss Julia Wrigley, treasurer. Directors of the club included Mrs. Major Smith, Mrs. E. B. Wood, Mrs. Wrigby, Mrs. S. Rose, Mrs. F. Dessau, Mrs. Dr. Strohecker, Mrs. J. A. Nisbet, Mrs. N. Bass, Mrs. T. Mason, Mrs. Lane, Mrs. M. S. Thompson, Mrs. J. DeLoach, Mrs. Ayres, Mrs. G. T. Rogers, Mrs. K. Vardell, Mrs. E. A. Nisbet, and Mrs. W. T. Colquitt.[27] The first meeting of the group was held on May 1st, when the constitution was adopted and the efforts of the Society pledged to the furnishing of lint bandages and garments to the sick and wounded soldiers in the field. An executive committee was elected and sub-committees appointed covering the various phases of this important work. By September 1st, over two hundred new members had been added to the rolls, and the constitution was amended to permit the supplying of clothing for the troops of Macon and Bibb county, and the furnishing of hospital supplies to the sick and wounded. An auxiliary society consisting of a little band of juvenile patriots, had also been formed, and in two months they contributed thirty-six pairs of drawers, twenty pairs of socks, and thirty-three shirts. The Society appropriately commended the children for their efforts by the adoption of a beautiful resolution as follows: "That the thanks of this Society are due and tendered to the band of 'little' patriots for their donation, as well as for the industry with which they ply their needles in the noble cause, and that we commend their zeal and patriotism as worthy of imitation."

Mrs. L. N. Boykin was chosen secretary of the organization in July to take the place of Miss Bass, resigned, and held the office, with Mrs.

26. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.
27. Macon Daily Telegraph, 1861.

Poe as president, throughout the war. During the first seven months of its operation, the Society expended over $7,000 for the purposes intended, besides having a large quantity of useful material for camp and hospital service donated to it. As the fury of the war increased and more and more troops from this section were sent into battle, the duties of the Society proportionately increased, and the members of this group were called upon time after time to make sacrifices of time and energy above and beyond the call of their ordinary duties. In 1862, Mrs. E. J. Johnson was made treasurer of the Society and chairman of the committee on hospital supplies.[28]

In the fall of the same year, another benevolent organization was founded to aid the cause of the Confederacy. A company of ten citizens, including N. C. Munroe, E. J. Johnston, Mix & Kirkland, S. J. Gustin, T. R. Bloom, L. N. Whittle, J. D. Loache, J. J. Gresham, J. Hollingsworth, and H. L. Jewett, purchased the old Macon Hotel, and placed it under the charge of the Relief Society, who converted it into a hospital and eating house for the disabled soldiers on the trains. The Wayside Home was the name given to this hospitable retreat, and it proved to be one of the most useful and necessary projects in the entire state. During the first three years of the war, the women of the South assumed domestic duties of as much importance as the fighting duties of their men. Through their energy, ingenuity, and resourcefulness,—they practically clothed the soldiers in the field, and furnished most of the hospital supplies and provisions. When their supplies at home were depleted, there was another field of endeavor that called for even greater effort. There were thousands of disabled and wounded soldiers crowded into whatever hospital space was available. In Macon alone, during 1864-65, there were approximately 6,000 wounded and disabled troops, a number greater than the entire white population of the city, including women and children. Every state, from Maryland to Texas, had numbers of their gallant sons receiving medical assistance and nursing attention from the patriotic daughters of Macon.

Mrs. Isaac Winship, the daughter of Major Philip Cook, who was born within the stockade of Fort Hawkins, and said to be the first white child born in the vicinity of Macon, was very active in her work for the Confederacy. In 1862, she organized and assisted in equipping the first Confederate Hospital in Georgia. The sick and wounded were often carried to her own home where they were tenderly cared for. She visited the battlefields and supervised the removal of Confederate dead, and then saw that their graves were properly marked. She was president of the Memorial Association in Macon following the war

28. Butler: Historical Record of Macon

and was one of the leading figures in securing the Confederate Monument in 1879 for this city.[29]

The farmers of Middle and South Georgia, although scarce in number since many had gone to the fighting fronts, contributed greatly to the war effort. With the help of their families and still loyal slaves, they tilled the soil day and night in order to provide sufficient food both at home and on the battlefields. After Vicksburg fell to the Federal forces, cutting the Confederacy in two, Georgia became the principal state to supply the Confederate armies with food, and practically all of the land in Middle and South Georgia which was under cultivation was now green with corn and vegetables instead of the traditional cotton, which had been grown to supply New England and European factories prior to the war. Macon, because of its central location, became an important point for quartermaster and commissary departments.

Another group of the city's population played an important role in the war effort. With a great number of her able-bodied men fighting at the front in other states, it became necessary to form an army of reserve forces to protect the city since the Federal forces had planted their standard on the Georgia coast and their armies were gradually advancing into Tennessee. Six companies of home guards were organized from the mechanics at the arsenal; from merchants, clerks, teachers, and business leaders; from doctors, lawyers, and railroad men; from the young, the old, the feeble, and infirm. As much time as possible was spent in drilling and actual preparation to meet an invader.

General Lee detailed General Howell Cobb to head the organization of Reserve forces in Georgia, and he established in Atlanta in 1863 the "Headquarters of the Army of Georgia Reserves." The following year, his headquarters were moved to Macon, and set up in a three-story brick office building at 554 Mulberry Street. General Cobb was greatly loved and respected by all who came in contact with him, and he put new spirit into the people. On several occasions, the reserve forces under his command distinguished themselves with gallantry in action. Home Guard units in Macon included the Macon Volunteers under Captain C. H. Freeman; the Macon and Western Railroad Guards under Captain John S. Wise; the Fireman Guards under Captain George S. Obear; the Bibb Volunteer Guards under Captain H. L. Jewett; Companies A and B of the ordnance department; and Company B of the Floyd Rifles.[30]

Many of the people of Georgia suffered great privation and suffering during the war, and toward 1865, there was danger of actual

29. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.
30. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.



General Howell Cobb, Commander of all Confederate Reserve Forces in Georgia.

Courtesy of Washington Memorial Library

starvation in the war-torn northern and southwestern sections. Macon citizens were generous in the relief efforts and although their own plight was none too good, many contributions of food and clothing were sent to the stricken areas.

A speech made by Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, in August, 1863, describes the patriotism and suffering of the armies at that time:

"Mr. Stephens said that soon after the first great battle of Manassas, duty called him to our camps near that point. He went over the grounds on which that conflict had taken place. The evidence of the terrible strife was still fresh and visible all around. The widespread desolation, the newly made graves, and the putrid animal remains not yet removed by the vultures, fully attested what a scene of blood it had been. While surveying the hills and defiles over which the various columns of our men and the enemy passed and were engaged on that memorable day, among other things that crowded themselves upon his mind, were two dying expressions reported to have been uttered in the midst of battle. One was by a soldier on the side of the enemy, who falling and weltering in his blood, exclaimed: "My God! What is all this for?" The other was by the lamented Bartow, who said: "Boys, they have killed me, but never give it up!" These two exclamations were made at no great distance apart, and perhaps near the same place. "What is all this for?" Mr. Stephens said he could but think the question was pertinent to both sides, and most pertinent from him who uttered it, addressed to all his invading comrades, and those who sent them. Well might he there, in the agonies of death, in the din and dust of strife, in the clangor of arms, and the thunder of artillery, ask "What is all this for?" Why this array of armies? Why this fierce meeting in mortal combat? What is all this courage and slaughter for? The same question is still as pertinent to those who are waging this war against us, as it was then. Why the prolongation of this conflict? Why this immense sacrifice of life in camp, and the numerous battles that have been fought since? Why this lamentation and mourning going up from almost every house and family from Maine to the Rio Grande, and from the Atlantic and the Gulf to the Lakes, for friends and dear ones who have fallen by disease and violence in this unparalleled struggle? The answer, if replied to by the North, can have but one true answer. What is all this for, on their part, but to overturn the principle upon which their government, as well as ours, is based,—to reverse the doctrine that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. What is it for but to overturn the principles and practice of their own government from the beginning. That government was founded and based upon the political axiom that all states and peoples have the inalienable right to change their government at will!

"Well may any and everyone, North and South, exclaim: 'What is all this for?' What have we done to the North? When have we ever wronged them? We quit them, it is true, as our ancestors and their ancestors quit the British government. We quit, as they quit, upon a constitutional right. That question they determined for themselves and we have but done the same. What, therefore, is all this for? Why this

war, on their part, against the uniform principles and practices of their own government? It is a war, in short, on their part, against right, against reason, against justice!

"I asked on our side: "What is all this for?" The reply from every breath is that it is for home, for firesides, for our altars, for our birthrights, for property, for honor; in a word, for everything for which free men should live, and for which all deserving to be free men should be willing, if need be, to die!"[31]

Macon Citizens Fight Inflation

During the early part of the war, the state government found it necessary to depart from sound finance. Treasury notes treasury certificates of deposit, and change bills were issued by the state. Banks were allowed to issue change bills, also, from denominations of five cents to one dollar for purposes of exchange. The Western and Atlantic Railroad, which was operated by the state, and the state treasury itself, issued change bills ranging from five cents to four dollars. Private businesses were prohibited from issuing these bills,—which soon became popularly known as "shin-plasterers"; yet many of them were issued in spite of the law.[32]

Needless to say, much speculation occurred. Some individuals amassed fortunes by trading and trafficking with this depreciated currency. However, their unpatriotic success was rewarded only with failure when defeat finally came. Business and political leaders in Macon did all that they could to discourage and to punish those who attempted to benefit themselves personally at the expense of the public welfare. On February 17th, 1863, in pursuance with a notice published in the Daily Telegraph, a large number of the citizens of Macon and surrounding territory assembled at the City Hall.

The meeting was organized by calling the Honorable T. G. Holt to the chair and appointing W. D. Williams, secretary. The chairman announced the object of the meeting whereupon Colonel Whittle moved that a committee of five be appointed to consider and report business for the action of the meeting. The motion was passed and the following appointed: L. N. Whittle, Nathan Bass, J. J. Gresham, W. B. Johnston, and A. Lockett. The committee retired, returned, and reported the following preamble and resolutions which, on motion of Colonel W. K. de Graffenreid, were unanimously adopted:

"Although happily for us, we ourselves are remote from the actual din of battle and clash of arms, and are allowed to enjoy in ease and security, the comforts of our homes and firesides, still we recognize the fact that we of Georgia, together with our sister states of the Confederacy, are in the midst of revolution and war and that these bless-

31. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
32. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

ings are allowed us in consequence of the energy and gallantry of our young men, of our brothers, sons, and friends, who have rushed to the fields and are now confronting our enemies, offering themselves willing sacrifices for us, for our property, and for their families, whom they have left behind and in our keeping.

"We are engaged in a war, whether considered in view of the numbers engaged on either side or the mighty results which must inevitably follow to us, involving liberty and independence on the one hand or utter subjugation and ruin on the other, of such magnitude as the world never before saw, and this with one of the most powerful nations of the earth, outnumbering us nearly three to one, requiring on our part not only unity of purpose but concert of action, and the actual development of every power and aid to assist and sustain our young government and brave troops in the mighty and unequaled contest, in which we are engaged; with this union and concert smiled on as we feel we have been heretofore by a kind, gracious Providence, we must succeed unless we shall be shorn of our strength by enemies lurking in our midst, under the guise of friends.

"To wage this war does now require and will require to keep troops almost innumerable in the field, to supply them with clothes, sustenance, and transportation, to manufacture and supply immense quantities of arms and all the munitions of war, to provide for and take care of the wives and children whom our volunteers have left in our defense; these, and each of them, will require large sums of money to procure and supply, and without which the struggle must be given over; indeed, without money for the future, as well as now we are already vanquished.

"Our young government, not yet two years old, being cut off from all commercial intercourse with the world, hemmed in by the powerful navy of the enemy, is forced to rely on her own resources for money as well as for all other requisites to carry on this war for our independence, and although containing within itself all the elements of wealth sufficient even for this great emergency which is upon her, she is forced, while the blockade of her ports shall continue, to resort to her credit until she shall be able to send abroad and dispose of the rich commodities with which almost every farm in the land is filled, so that for the time, this credit as used by our government, the Confederate currency, is to us all in all.

"Destroy this credit, break down this currency, and our armies must of necessity at once give up the fight and come home, and we with them occupy the position of our enemies in no other way have been or will be able to force upon us, that of serfs and slaves to the bigots of New England and their allies and friends. He, who would thus work our ruin would not hesitate to lead our troops into the ambush of

our enemy, or by any other means in his power, short of taking the field as an open enemy, work our ruin.

"Therefore, Resolved, that we will hold all persons as enemies of this Confederacy, who shall by any means, depreciate the Confederate currency or shall refuse to receive it as payment of debts and will use our best endeavor to bring all such to condign punishment by legal means, if the law provides such a punishment, but if not, to punishment with or without law.

"Resolved, That inasmuch as the Confederate government has made its treasury notes a legal tender in payment for the army taken from the citizens by impressment, by compelling such citizens to receive them in payment for such supplies, and also in payment of its troops, we deem it both the duty and interest of the government, as well with the view of sustaining its credit, as an act of impartial justice to all its citizens, to make such notes, by legislative enactment, a legal tender in payment of all debts.

"Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be sent to our Senators and Representatives, to the end that they may bring the subject before Congress, and either pass a law making the Confederate currency a legal tender, or a law inflicting severe punishment on all who shall endeavor to depreciate or lower its value.

"Resolved, That the Mayor and Council of the City of Macon are requested to appoint a vigilance committee, to be composed of twenty-five of our best and most substantial citizens, who shall be clothed with all the power of the city police, and, whose duty it shall especially be to collect any and all facts that they can, bearing on this subject, and bring the offenders to punishment.

"Resolved, That the committee who shall be appointed by the City Council collect, as far as they can, the names of all of the persons in the city, who have refused to receive the currency in payment of debts due them, that they may be brought to the notice of the public and to punishment (on motion of C. J. Harris) that any attempt tending directly or indirectly to depreciate the currency of the country, is unpatriotic.

"Resolved, Therefore, that during the continuance of the war, the attorneys of the city be recommended to reject all claims for suits where the party plaintiff refuses to accept Confederate money in payment of same."

On motion of J. Rutherford, the proceedings of the meeting were ordered to be published in the city paper and all other Journals favorable to the object of the meeting, and the following committee was appointed by City Council to carry out the policies adopted: T. G. Holt, J. B. Ross, J. J. Gresham, William B. Johnston, Charles Collins, J. W. Fears, G. M. Logan, S. T. Coleman, P. E. Bowdre, Thomas A.

Harris, J. T. Boifeuillet, David Flanders, J. DeLoache, J. A. Ralston, E. L. Strohecker, Nathan Bass, G. T. Rogers, C. C. Sims, W. T. Lightfoot, Robert B. Barfield, George W. Price, W. Massenberg, A. Mix, J. H. R. Washington, and Dr. M. S. Thompson.[33]

At the time of the adoption of the above resolution, it took three Confederate dollars to purchase what one gold dollar would buy. Four years later, in spite of the commendable action of the leaders of Macon and other patriotic men throughout the South, money was worth one-fiftieth of its value in 1860.

War Needs of the Confederacy

One of the most important needs which the state had the greatest difficulty in meeting during the war was that of securing adequate supplies of salt. The Federal blockade soon cut off the customary sources of supply, and the state had to seek new markets. Many Macon families were without this precious commodity for weeks at the time. The legislature offered to lend money, without interest, to persons who would set up salt works, and Governor Brown offered a $5,000 reward to anyone discovering salt springs or wells which would produce 300 bushels of salt per day. In 1862, the state appropriated $500,000 in an effort to secure salt from southwestern Virginia. Salt hoarders and speculators were severely dealt with, and, in Atlanta, Governor Brown seized one thousand bushels of salt from a speculator, and threatened to use the army to prevent the courts from restoring it.

Georgia also had to adjust her agricultural conditions to meet the new requirements brought about by the war. Cotton had to be dethroned as king, with emphasis placed on producing food. This worked a hardship and financial loss upon many planters, including Maconites, whose businesses were organized solely for the production of this monied crop. A popular movement was aroused against raising cotton, and those who continued to plant it were considered almost traitors while those who raised corn and other foodstuffs were regarded as the greatest of patriots. In order to discourage those who might place profits from cotton above patriotism, laws were passed during the latter part of 1862 limiting each able-bodied workman to three acres of cotton, and imposing a fine of $500 per acre for each acre in excess of that. Thereafter, throughout the war, the amount of cotton grown decreased tremendously. This did not bring about an immediate increase in the food supply, however, for the distilleries set feverishly to work making Georgia grain into whiskey to replace the Kentucky supply, which had been cut off. Governor Brown, who had long been a temperance advocate, quickly met this menace by a proclamation forbidding the further manufacture of corn into whiskey. When the

33. Macon Daily Telegraph, 1863.

legislature convened the following November, it translated this proclamation into a law which forbade the distillation of any kind of grain into whiskey except for "medicinal, hospital, chemical, or mechanical purposes." Many other laws were passed by this legislature advocating measures to support the war effort, including one which made it grounds for divorce for any Georgia woman's husband to be in the Federal army or to be giving aid or comfort to the Federals.[34]

Another problem in Georgia throughout the war was Governor Brown's unwillingness to closely cooperate with the Confederate government. Brown apparently was so intense in his patriotism for Georgia that he never could completely reconcile himself to the problems and purposes of the Confederacy as a whole. He assumed the shortsighted view that as long as Georgia remained free from Federal invasion, all was well and good. He wanted Georgia troops to remain in Georgia, and one of the prize quotations of the war developed from this when Francis S. Bartow in the early summer of 1861 led his Oglethorpe Light Infantry, equipped with Georgia rifles, to Virginia without obtaining the Governor's permission. Brown objected and forwarded some bitter letters to Bartow which led him to say, "God forbid that I should ever fall so low as to think it necessary to obtain your consent to enter the service of my country." Brown wanted Georgia arms, ammunition, and equipment reserved for use in this state only. He wanted no interference from outside sources with his own prerogatives as Governor of Georgia. As a result of this policy, he came into strong conflict with the Confederate government when it established the policy of merging the welfare of each state into the general good of all the states.[35]

On several occasions, he was very outspoken in his criticism of President Jefferson Davis, and in one address, he talked about Davis being as great an enemy to Georgia as was Abraham Lincoln, himself. Alexander H. Stephens, Robert Toombs, and Herschel V. Johnson were strong supporters of Brown, while Howell Cobb, Benjamin H. Hill, and Eugenius A. Nisbet, outstanding Macon political leaders, were among the prominent leaders siding with the policies and decisions of the Confederate government. Nisbet was so strong in his opposition to Brown's policies that, upon the request of friends, he ran against him in 1861 for the governorship and almost succeeded in defeating Brown in a hotly contested election. The Macon candidate carried middle and south Georgia, but Brown picked up additional strength in the northern and other parts of the state, and was re-elected. The final return of votes showed 46,493 for Brown and 32,802 for Nisbet. He was re-elected twice during the war, and served in all,—four consecutive terms. Although Brown was bitter in his

34. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.
35. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

denunciation of the policies of the Confederacy, his administration was noted for its honesty and efficiency, and he showed unusual energy and initiative, and intense loyalty to his native state, throughout the war years.

Macon Furnishes Fighting Men

In the meantime, the war raged back and forth between the Union and Confederate armies upon five main theaters of operation. These combat areas included the Virginia front; the Mississippi Valley area; the battlefields of Arkansas and Missouri in the West; the Tennessee and Georgia campaigns; and maritime and naval activity at sea and in Southern rivers and harbors. The soldiers from this city fought with honor and distinction in all of these areas, but the heaviest concentration of Macon troops was in Virginia and Tennessee.

In all, Macon was represented on the various battlefields by a total of twenty-three combat organizations, which included the following:

Cavalry: Bibb County Cavalry under Captain Samuel S. Dunlap; Ocmulgee Rangers under Captain T. G. Holt, Jr., Company A, 19th Georgia Cavalry, afterwards, Company F, 10th Confederate Cavalry.

Infantry: Macon Volunteers under Captain R. A. Smith, Company D, 2nd Georgia Battalion; Floyd Rifles under Captain Thomas Hardeman, Company C, 2nd Georgia Battalion; Brown Infantry under Captain George A. Smith, Company C, 1st Georgia Regiment; Independence Volunteers under Captain J. W. Aderhold, Company A, 1st Georgia Regiment; Central City Blues under Captain J. G. Rogers, Company H, 12th Georgia Infantry; Lochrane Guards under Captain Jackson Barnes, Company F, Infantry Battalion, Phillips Legion; Ross Volunteers under Captain Richard F. Woolfork; Whittle Guards under Captain Jones, Company D, 10th Battalion, Georgia Infantry; Huguenin Rifles under Captain Cicero A. Tharpe, Company D, 30th Georgia Regiment; Lamar Infantry under Captain T. W. Brantley, Company A, 54th Georgia Regiment; Rutland Guards under Captain J. W. Stubbs, Company B, 27th Georgia Regiment; Sparks Guards under Captain J. B. Cumming; Thompson Guards under Captain J. A. Van Valkenburg, 10th, 13th, and 61st Georgia Regiments; Macon Guards under Captain Lucius M. Lamar, Company C, 8th Georgia Regiment; Gresham Rifles under Captain M. R. Rogers, Company A, 45th Georgia Regiment; Mangham Infantry under Captain Charles J. Williamson; Scott Infantry under Captain T. J. Pritchett, Company B, 64th Georgia Regiment; and the Lockett Infantry under Captain Charles J. Harris, Company K, 59th Georgia Regiment.

Artillery: Jackson Artillery under Captain Theo. W. Parker. Afterwards, Captained by George A. Dure and Thomas I. Massenberg as Massenberg's Battery; German Artillery under Captain F. Burghard;

and the Napier Artillery under Captain Leroy Napier; afterwards became Macon Light Artillery under Captain Henry N. Ells.[36]

The activities and rosters of these organizations, insofar as records and information were available, were published in a series of articles in the Macon Telegraph and Messenger, 1884, and include the following accounts:

Macon Volunteers

The Macon Volunteers, in company with the Floyd Rifles of this city and the City Light Guards of Columbus, left Macon on the 19th of April,—twenty-four hours after moving orders had been received,—for Norfolk, Virginia. These companies were the first troops to arrive in Virginia, and were stationed in Norfolk under the presumption that an attack would be made upon that place in retaliation for the destruction of United States property. About two weeks after their arrival, these companies were joined by the Spalding Grays of Griffin, and from the four companies was formed the Second Georgia Battalion, which served throughout the entire war.

The Macon Volunteers left Macon with sixty-eight men rank and file. With them went members of many of the leading families of the city. While not actively engaged during the first year at Norfolk, the company was thoroughly drilled in all branches and furnished to the Confederacy from its roll of 206 members during the war a total of 72 officers.

The company was in the seven days fight around Richmond and at Fredericksburg in 1862; in the fight at Elizabeth Furnace May 1, 1863; at Chancellorsville, May 2nd; at Fredericksburg May 3rd; and at Gettysburg, Manassas Gap, Bristow Station, Mine Run, and Thoroughfare Gap, the same year. In 1864, it was in the fight at the Wilderness, Spottsylvania Courthouse, North Anna River, Cold Harbor, Parker's Ridge, Petersburg, Ream's Station, Deep Bottom, Bellesfield, and Fort Wadsworth. During 1865,—at Farmville and Drury's Bluff, surrendering twenty-eight men with Lee at Appomattox Courthouse. At Gettysburg, the company had only thirty-three men in the beginning of the fight and five at the close, twenty-eight having been killed and wounded, and some of the latter taken prisoners. In this fight every officer in the company was wounded and two Lieutenants, E. G. Granniss and T. R. Campbell, died from their wounds.

Included in the roll of the company when it surrendered were: George S. Jones, L. Ripley, James G. Harrison, H. D. Hill, Frank Tye, W. B. Carter, W. A. Rogers, Theodore Wells, C. W. Graber, James T. Hill, Lewis R. Rhodes, Thomas D. Smith, George A. Keith, Benjamin C. Smith, John R. Griffin, A. C. Hill, T. H. Jones, J. A.

36. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.

Alston, D. M. Durret, T. L. Daniel, Stephen Elder, W. C. Lockett, J. T. Register, and George W. Seymour.

Only three members served with the Volunteers from the first enlistment to the final surrender as privates, viz: B. C. Smith, Z. T. Conner, Jr., and J. R. Griffin.

The war roll, as near as can now be ascertained, was as follows: Captain R. A. Smith, elected Colonel Forty-fourth Georgia, killed June 1862; Lieutenant A. G. Butts, resigned from disability, August 1862; George S. Jones, elected Captain at reorganization, May 1862; Ensign George W. Hardee, resigned in 1861; First Sergeant T. K. Campbell, elected Lieutenant at reorganization, died September 1864, of wounds received at Gettysburg; Second Sergeant G. C. Conner, elected Lieutenant 1861, appointed Adjutant Sixty-first Georgia, June 1863; Third Sergeant E. C. Granniss, elected Lieutenant at reorganization and killed at Gettysburg; Fourth Sergeant C. M. Wiley, appointed Adjutant Forty-fourth Georgia, 1862; Fifth Sergeant E. Isaacs, discharged 1862; First Corporal T. W. Mangham, appointed Colonel, Thirty-second Georgia, 1861; Second Corporal I. Dessau, appointed First Lieutenant First Georgia Regulars, July 1863; Third Corporal M. H. Sisson; Fourth Corporal W. E. Benton, transferred to telegraph corps, 1861; Fifth Corporal H. T. Vardell, discharged from disabilities, 1862; Secretary A. M. Speer, appointed Major Forty-fourth Georgia, 1862; Surgeon G. G. Griffin, appointed Surgeon P.A.C.S. in 1862.

Privates included in the war roll were as follows: E. D. Amos, discharged from disabilities, 1862; F. M. Amos, J. A. Alston, and J. M. Alston.

W. E. Brown, William F. Brown, discharged from disabilities, 1862; J. E. Brown, died in Macon, 1863; John E. Brown, John Hix Bass, transferred to Sixty-first Georgia 1862 as Sergeant-Major; John T. Bass, died of wounds received at Chancellorsville, May 1863; N. H. Bass, transferred, 1862, to cavalry; Joel Branham, discharged 1862; J. W. Branham, appointed Lieutenant Conscript Camp, December 1862; J. Bazemore, discharged 1861; J. T. Bigbee, conscript; Charley Benns, killed at Gettysburg, 1863; T. F. Brantley, F. A. Boyle, discharged by promotion to Adjutant Thirty-second North Carolina, 1862; C. F. Baldwin, transferred to cavalry Sixty-second Georgia, 1864; W. P. Baldwin, appointed commissary Sixty-second Cavalry, 1862; John S. Baxter, appointed Surgeon, P.A.C.S., to Forty-sixth Georgia; L. Bowdre, transferred to artillery, 1862; H. Beasley, killed at Manassas Gap, 23rd July 1863; R. M. Bearden, appointed Adjutant, Second Tennessee cavalry regiment, afterwards killed in action.

Z. T. Conner, Jr., C. G. Conner, transferred to telegraph service, 1862; W. Cain, discharged 1862; C. E. Campbell, discharged 1862;

J. H. Campbell, discharged by promotion 1863; John A. Cobb, discharged by promotion, 1861; Lamar Cobb, discharged by promotion, 1861; S. K. Cook, appointed Sergeant-Major, 1865; J. O. A. Cook, appointed Chaplain 1862; Tom Collins, killed at Petersburg, June 23, 1864; H. P. Collins, appointed assistant surgeon, P.A.C.S., 1862; H. M. Cottingham, transferred to cavalry 1864; J. S. Cowles, transferred to Fifty-ninth Georgia, 1862; W. B. Carter, appointed Corporal.

M. DeGraffenreid, appointed Lieutenant in First Georgia Regiment, 1862; W. H. Deaver, appointed Lieutenant in a North Carolina regiment, 1861; G. D. Dingler, discharged from disability, 1862; J. S. Duckworth, discharged by promotion; Young Daniel, died in Richmond, 1862; T. J. Dyson, appointed Adjutant Georgia Regiment; D. M. Durrett, company quartermaster; Gilbert Davis, discharged from disability, 1861; N. Dessau, discharged by substitution, 1862; D. Davidson, captured at Gettysburg and took an oath to the United States Government; De Young, discharged from disabilities, 1862; R. A. Dillard, H. Dunbar, discharged, 1862; Jacob Davis, detailed for light duty, 1864; W. H. Dunn, (substitute) ; T. L. Daniel, (substitute) .

C. K. Emmell, transferred to Signal Corps, 1862; Stephen Elder, ambulance driver; I. B. English.

D. M. Flanders, discharged, 1862; C. B. Franklin, courier on Sorrell's Staff.

James Graybill, discharged 1862; C. R. Graybill, discharged 1861; John R. Griffin, W. B. Griffin, appointed Lieutenant in First Georgia Regulars, 1862; H. S. Graves, appointed Lieutenant in C. S. Marines, 1862; C. W. Gruber, John Grieve, appointed Lieutenant in First Georgia Regulars, 1864; Tom B. Gresham, detailed in engineer's corps, 1861.

Robert C. Hardee, discharged 1861; Leroy Holt, discharged 1861; A. F. Holt, transferred to cavalry 1864; H. D. Hill, appointed Sergeant; J. T. Hill, Samuel Hunter, appointed quartermaster 1862; G. B. Hampstead, deserted 1861; James G. Harrison, appointed First Sergeant; H. H. Howard, appointed Corporal; J. M. Howard, discharged 1862; W. L. Hart, R. V. Hardeman, transferred to Forty-fifth Georgia, 1863; W. A. Hopson, appointed Adjutant Sixty-second Georgia cavalry; W. W. Hunt, transferred to Third Georgia Regiment; A. T. Hightower, died in prison 1865; James Hogg, died at Petersburg, 1862; Holloway, (substitute) , deserted at Petersburg, 1865; O. C. Hill, (substitute) .

S. G. Johnson, died of wounds received at Chancellorsville, May 1863; W. F. Johnson, appointed Lieutenant in the Navy Department; A. H. Johnson, died at home, 1863; C. W. Johnson, S. C. Johnson, died in prison, 1864; J. M. Johnson, a conscript, deserted December 1864;

J. W. Jones, appointed assistant Surgeon P.A.C.S., Twenty-second Georgia; T. H. Jones.

E. A. Kimbail, deserted 1861; George A. Keith.

W. C. Lockett, appointed Quartermaster Sergeant 1863; J. Lockett, discharged 1862; J. H. Lamar, appointed Colonel Sixty-first Georgia Regiment and killed at Monocacy; S. C. Lanier, transferred to Signal Corps 1862; Luke Lane, appointed Lieutenant Conscript Camp 1862; R. J. Lightfoot, transferred to artillery 1864.

J. S. McDonald, appointed engineer in C.S.N.; J. W. McDonald, killed at Gettysburg 1863; H. H. Moffett, discharged 1861; C. E. Macarthy, transferred to artillery, 1864; Henry Macarthy, killed at Mine Run, November 30, 1863; McArthur, discharged 1863; R. A. Morris, T. H. McGarrity, (substitute) deserted 1865.

B. H. Napier, discharged by promotion 1861; L. Napier, discharged by promotion 1861; J. B. Nelson, discharged by order of General Holmes; J. R. Newman, John S. Newsome, killed at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.

R. L. Oliver, transferred to Cavalry, May 1863.

J. G. Price, transferred to Cavalry, December 1864; A. H. Powell, discharged 1862; W. Phillips, discharged by substitute, 1863; Washington Poe, detailed in P. O., Macon, Ga., 1861.

L. B. Rhodes, L. Ripley, elected Lieutenant in company, November 9, 1864; Jack Ragan, died in Richmond, March 2, 1863; George T. Rogers, Jr., detailed in G.R.&H. Association at Richmond; C. H. Rogers, appointed Captain and commissary, 1861; E. C. Rogers, transferred to a Georgia Regiment, 1863; A. C. Rogers, discharged 1862; W. A. Rogers, appointed Corporal; S. E. Rogers killed at Petersburg, June 22, 1864; Alonzo Ray, died at home, 1862; John B. Ray, died at home, 1862; T. M. Rice, appointed Assistant Surgeon P.A.C.S.; J. T. Register, conscript.

S. M. Subers, discharged 1861; J. W. Sewell, died in Richmond, 1863; B. C. Smith, T. D. Smith, J. W. Shinholser, J. Shinholser, discharged 1862; T. A. Speer, died at Richmond, 1863; H. E. Speer, discharged 1862; E. Saulsbury, appointed agent G.R.&H. Association at Richmond; George W. Seymour, Asa Seymour, discharged 1862; J. H. Singleton, detailed 1863; W. R. Singleton, detailed in 1863; J. A. Shirley, John Schmidt, (substitute), deserted 1863; F. T. Stowe, discharged 1862; C. Sullivan, captured at Gettysburg, claimed British protection.

S. E. Theus, retired on account of wounds received at Gettysburg; W. B. Treadwell, discharged and appointed Chaplain; W. T. Theall, discharged 1861; W. J. Tooke, elected Lieutenant in artillery; Frank Tye, appointed Sergeant of company; Moore B. Thomas, died in Richmond, 1862; Albert Trippe, died in Richmond, 1862.

G. S. Van Valkenburg, detailed in medical department account of wounds; U. Van Gesen, detailed in engineer department, 1864.

L. H. Wing, elected Lieutenant in 1862; B. A. Wise, discharged and promoted 1862; W. W. Wrigley, discharged by substitution; J. E. Wells, Jr., discharged 1864 and appointed clerk A.&I.G.O., Richmond; Theo Wells, appointed Corporal; W. H. Walker, discharged in 1861 from disability; W. T. Worsham, W. G. White, transferred to Sixty-second Georgia Cavalry; J. R. Walker, discharged in 1862; C. J. Williamson, discharged; John Williams, (substitute) deserted 1865; F. B. Woodson, O. L. Woodard, discharged by substitution, 1862; J. Whitehurst, discharged 1861; A. Weaver, discharged 1862; W. T. Weaver, discharged 1862; Ed Wood, discharged 1862; Andrew Wood and Charlie Benger, musicians.

Floyd Rifles

Previously, in December 1860, upon the secession of South Carolina, the Floyd Rifles, with Thomas Hardeman, Jr., as Captain, had rendered their services to the Governor of Georgia, but no troops were sent to that state.

On April 19th, the company left for Norfolk with the Volunteers where the Second Georgia Battalion was organized, Captain Hardeman being elected Major. Both Macon companies were completely equipped with their own property. The activities of the company during the war are well described by Ex-Captain Hardeman in an address to the company upon the presentation of Gettysburg medals after the war, and include the following:

March 16th—ordered to Tanner's Creek Crossroads to throw up temporary works to secure Confederate positions, etc., afterwards to Sewell's Point, within reach of the guns of Fortress Monroe.

May 19, 1862—ordered to Goldsboro; term of office expiring soon; came home; summoned back. On May 1st, battalion reorganized at Wilmington, North Carolina.

May 27th—ordered to Petersburg and afterwards to Richmond; June 26th and 27th—Mechanicsville and Cold Harbor—in the reserve; July 3rd—crossed the Chickahominy and charged batteries in White Oak Swamp; July 5th—ordered to Petersburg, then on July 13th—to James River, which was reached after an all day march without rations or water; July 15th—Rifles, as a company, were ordered to picket the river. Transport "Herald", with decks loaded, comes in sight. When all but Pilot "go below", Rifles fired at boat. Afterwards learned from Northern papers that Pilot was killed and that Lincoln, Stanton, McClellan, and Halleck were on board.

On September 24th, upon the reorganization of the army, the battalion was assigned to A. R. Wright's brigade.

May 1st, 1863—reported to Stuart. At the Furnace, confronted by line of battle that opened fire on detachment, killing John Bass, of the Volunteers, and wounding Frank Hafer, of the Rifles—the first serious casualties in these companies; May 3rd—Major Ross and M. H. Cutter wounded; May 4th—at Salem Church, S. D. Raney, W. E. Gross wounded.

July 1st—battalion crossed Southern Mountain. At sunrise, July 2nd, Anderson's division began March to Seminary Ridge (Gettysburg). The battalion carried into the fight 149 and brought out 50, the battalion being reformed by a Sergeant of the Rifles. The casualties in the Rifles were greater than any other company in the battalion and were: Killed—Major George W. Ross, died in prison from wounds; Captain C. R. Redding, killed within thirty yards of enemy batteries; Archibald Harman, John Martin, Jacob Rosenfeldt, Elijah Taylor, Henry H. Young, J. R. Thomas, A. J. Lagerquist—total, nine. Wounded—Lieutenant A. A. Freeman, captured; Sergeant-Major W. J. F. Ross, captured; W. P. Carlos, captured; T. Judd, captured; E. A. Shiver, captured; F. C. Ross, captured; J. Roby Wood, captured; John Bowman, T. J. Bazemore, A. F. Holt, J. H. Jones, C. A. Matthews, John T. Hartley, A. S. McGregor, James Rowland, George Goelz, L. D. Smith, John Varner, J. F. Clarke, J. T. Pritchett—total twenty; seven of them prisoners. Captured—J. O. Goodall, Grant D. Carter, Jonas Hafer, and E. J. Robinson—total, four.

July 16th and 17th, at Manassas—company again engaged enemy but without loss; also at Mine Run on November 27th.

May 7th, 1864—Division (Anderson's) moved at four o'clock in the morning across the plank road, passed at sunrise positions held by our troops the day before—Federal dead covering the ground—the brigade had halted—the Floyd Rifles, with one company of Tenth battalion, ordered to the skirmish line; details also from Mahone and Saunders. At eleven o'clock, General Saunders, in command of the line, was ordered to advance until he found the enemy; videttes were thrown out to guard the line against surprise—H. M. Lane on the right and H. M. Cutter on the left of the company; fired upon by a scouting party and left vidette withdrawn; still advancing and finding no enemy; orders were given to halt and fall back. This created discussion as to the propriety of the order, as no enemy had been found, and duty demanded they should advance until he was found as General Lee had directed. It was here discovered that H. M. Cutter, one of the videttes, was missing, and fears for his capture decided the Floyd Rifles to advance. With them went the company from the Tenth battalion. A march of a mile brought them within seventy-five yards of a line of earthworks, and upon these sat Cutter, calmly smoking his pipe. No enemy, except slain, had been seen. As information was

important, they moved in the direction of Spottsylvania Courthouse, and were soon hailed by a man on horseback, giving information that the road below was full of Federals. Advancing slowly through the cedar hedges, they came suddenly upon a regiment of calvary drawn up in fours . . . "Surrender . . . dismount" came so suddenly upon them that not knowing the force opposing them, they obeyed. The captured proved to be the Twenty-second New York cavalry, acting with General Grant's rear guard. We secured one hundred and eight horses and would have taken more but for an error of our batteries firing upon us and stampeding both men and horses.

At Spottsylvania Courthouse, H. W. Daniels was killed, W. W. Cain lost an arm, and A. S. McGregor was wounded.

On May 23rd, Grant reached North Anna River and crossed a column at Jerico's Ford on the 26th. Here the Rifles and a part of a Mississippi brigade were thrown forward. They surprised three Federal regiments, charged them, captured three stands of colors, all their arms, a portion of their troops, driving the rest into the river. In this engagement, W. G. Clark, of the Rifles, was killed, and Samuel Rittenberry wounded. In another portion of the line where the Volunteers were—J. H. Johns and W. P. Carlos, both of the Rifles, were wounded.

June 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, before Petersburg—the following were the casualties: Killed—Sergeant W. C. Redding, Corporal G. W. Scattergood, Privates John Pritchett, N. M. Young, David Wells, A. C. Price. Wounded—George Goelz, J. T. Hartley, Frank Freeman. James B. Matthews, S. D. Rainey, F. M. Sacrae, F. B. Virgin.

Daily skirmishing going on, and on July 10th, J. H. Johns was killed.

August 21st at Deep Bottom, Samuel Rittenberry was killed, and Judge Ivy, J. J. Tinley, Frank Hafer, F. M. Sacrae, and M. H. Cutter were captured.

April 7th, 1865, near Appomattox—James Rowland was killed. F. M. Heath lost an arm; John M. Grimes, J. B. Mathews, and J. T. Hartley were wounded.

The casualties in the Floyd Rifles all through the war were greater than in either of the other companies of the battalion.

In our struggle, the Macon Volunteers had 11 killed, 32 wounded, and several made prisoners. Thirteen Volunteers had died in camp, and sixteen Floyd Rifles, viz: J. T. Bird, W. T. Bledsoe, John Bowman, W. A. Callaway, I. N. Cherry, George Ernest, A. I. J. Lagerquist, B. C. Mitchell, John McLane, Robert Martin, W. R. Munson, W. B. Parker, S. W. Smithey, J. Comer Shaw, and Mark A. Wingfield.

At the surrender at Appomattox, there were thirteen Rifles, viz: Lieutenant W. J. F. Ross, Corporal C. L. Ross, C. C. Burnett, F. M. Freeman, Zach Gunn, J. T. Hartley, Charles Willett, H. M. Lane,

C. W. Newton, E. A. Newton, Thomas Pritchett, Samuel D. Rainey, and A. S. Redding.

Officers of the company included the following: Captain Thomas Hardeman, Colonel Forty-fifth Georgia, afterwards on General G. W. Smith's staff; First Lieutenant W. H. Ross, Lieutenant Colonel Confederate service, afterwards on Hardee's staff; Second Lieutenant C. R. Redding, made Captain, killed; First Sergeant G. F. Cherry, Adjutant Forty-fifth Georgia; Second Sergeant George W. Ross, Major Second Georgia battalion; Third Sergeant J. J. Collins; Fourth Sergeant A. A. Freeman, lieutenant in command; Fifth Sergeant W. W. Richardson, lieutenant; First Corporal W. J. Thomas; Second Corporal Charles L. Ross; Third Corporal Alex Reynolds; Fourth Corporal B. D. Lunsden; Fifth Corporal Thomas J. Lane.

Among the Privates on the company roster were the following: Clifford Anderson, promoted to second lieutenant, and afterwards elected to the Confederate Congress; J. B. Arnold.

Asa Brantley, discharged from disabilities 1861; E. Brown, discharged 1862, over age; Charles C. Burnett; James H. Blount, promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in General Howell Cobb's command; J. T. Bird, died 1862; John Broughton, detailed in medical department 1862; W. T. Bledsoe, died 1862; John Bowman, died; John Bostick, discharged by substitution; R. E. Brantley, transferred to cavalry; T H Brown, transferred to Forty-fifth Georgia, killed at Gettysburg; V. Brown, discharged from disability; E. Blount; William Beddingfield; E. L. Burdick, discharged by substitution; T. J. Bazemore, transferred to cavalry; P. H. Bone.

P. H. Calhoun; M. H. Cutter, captured 1864, not exchanged; David Craig, detailed in 1861; A. H. Coates, discharged from disability 1862; J. J. Collins, discharged from disability 1862; W. A. Callaway, died 1862; W. P. Carlos; G. D. Carter; W. W. Chain, discharged, lost an arm at Spottsylvania Courthouse, 1864; I. N. Cherry, died 1862; W. G. Clarke, killed at North Anna River, 1864; John F. Clarke.

L. Dickinson, discharged from wounds 1861; Dennis Daly, discharged 1861; G. H. Daniell, detailed at Georgia Home, Richmond; H. W. Daniell, killed at Spottsylvania Courthouse, 1864.

Charles Ellis; W. H. Ellison, transferred to artillery 1862; W. H. English, appointed drum major, Second Georgia batallion; H. N. Ells, discharged 1861; J. A. Edwards, transferred to cavalry, 1864; George Ernest, died 1862.

A. A. Freeman, promoted to First Lieutenant, 1862; Frank F. Freeman; W. E. Gross, detailed by Secretary of War, August 1864; J. J. Gegan, detailed by medical purveyor; J. O. Goodale, captured at Gettysburg; J. F. H. Gordon, detailed in 1862; James T. Grey, detailed; John M. Grimes, promoted to First Sergeant, 1863; Zack Gunn,

detailed as teamster; George Goelz, disabled from wounds, 22nd June, 1864, and put on retired list; D. Goldsmith.

R. U. Hardeman, transferred to Forty-fifth Georgia 1862; J. C. Holmes, discharged by promotion 1862; Lewis Holmes, discharged on account of disability, 1861; Edwin Harris, discharged on account of over age; G. W. Harvey; Abner T. Holt, disabled from wounds; A. L. Hanse, discharged by substitution; J. A. Hafer; J. Hafer, captured at Gettysburg, not exchanged; J. F. Hafer, captured 1864; J. T. Hartley; Archie Harman, killed at Gettysburg; F. M. Heath, lost an arm at Appomattox Courthouse; C. E. Holmes.

Edward Johnson, discharged from over age; A. F. Jackson.

James Kenan, detailed by ordnance department 1863; H. J. Knott, died.

M. Landauer, discharged by substitution, 1862; J. Y. Lowe, discharged by substitution, 1862; R. H. Lightfoot; B. D. Lumsden, transferred to cavalry; T. J. Lane, discharged in 1861; W. B. Laughon; T. J. Lowe, discharged by substitution, 1862; A. J. Lagerquist, taken prisoner at Gettysburg and died in prison; H. M. Lane; W. M. LeConte, discharged by promotion; J. Lowery.

S. D. Massey, discharged on account of disability; J. Marks, discharged on account of disability; John Martin, killed at Gettysburg; J. Morris; B. C. Mitchell, died; John McLane, died; Robert Martin, died at home; C. A. Matthews, wounded at Gettysburg and detailed; J. B. Matthews; W. T. Morgan, discharged on account of disability, 1862; W. R. Munson, died; A. S. McGregor; J. W. Myrick, discharged by substitution.

J. L. Nichols, discharged by substitutions; C. W. Newton; F. A. Newton.

J. Peck, discharged on account of over age; S. D. Phillips, discharged from disability; H. S. Pickett, discharged from disability; A. C. Price, killed 23 June 1869 at Petersburg; S. B. Peacock discharged; George Payne; J. H. Pickett; W. B. Parks, died; J. W. Pritchett, killed 22nd June, 1864, at Petersburg; Thomas Pritchett; Samuel Rittenberry, killed August, 1864, at Deep Botton; E. C. Ross, promoted to Second Lieutenant, First Georgia regiment.

George W. Ross, elected Captain in 1861, Major Second Georgia battalion in 1862, died from wounds received at Gettysburg; W. J. F. Ross, promoted to Lieutenant in 1863; J. F. Ross, transferred to Western Army, killed at Monticello, Kentucky, 1863; Alex Reynolds, discharged in 1861; M. R. Rogers, discharged by promotion; Isaiah Richardson, discharged on account of disabilities; Jacob Rosenfeldt, killed at Gettysburg; S. D. Rainey; William W. Richardson, promoted First Sergeant in 1862 and afterwards First Lieutenant; J. Rowland, killed at Appomattox Courthouse; B. Rowland, detailed in hospital;

James T. Russell, discharged under foreign protection; E. J. Robertson, captured at Gettysburg and kept a prisoner during the war; A. S. Redding; W. C. Redding, killed 22nd June, 1864, at Petersburg; J. R. Rice.

Joshua Schofield, discharged 1861; T. P. Stubbs, discharged over age; John Streyer, detailed in 1864; L. B. Stone discharged by promotion; Joseph R. Stubbs, promoted to Lieutenant in Twenty-seventh Georgia; S. W. Smithey, died; John Smithey, died; J. C. Smith, discharged by promotion; G. Sturm, deserted; G. W. Scattergood, killed 22nd June, 1864, at Petersburg; Walter Scattergood, detailed by ordnance department 1862; J. C. Shaw, died; A. Schiff; W. A. Shaw, transferred; L. D. Smith; E. A. Shiver; F. M. Sacrae.

H. A. Troutman, discharged; J. F. A. Tufts, promoted to ordnance sergeant, Second Georgia battalion; G. W. Troutman, discharged; Orrie Tufts, discharged by substitution; W. E. S. Taylor, killed at Gettysburg; J. R. Thomas, killed at Gettysburg; J. J. Tinley, taken prisoner at Gettysburg, not exchanged; A. W. Tench; S. Thomasson, discharged from disability.

John Valentino, detailed; Dan Valentino, discharged; J. A. Varner; F. B. Virgin.

B. F. Wilder, discharged by substitution; M. A. Wingfield, died in 1861; J. R. Wood, wounded at Gettysburg and captured, not exchanged; D. A. Wells, killed at Petersburg, 22nd June , 1864; D. B. Woodruff, discharged from disability 1861; B. P. Weeks, detailed as teamster; C. M. Willett; L. Ward, substitute and deserted; Walsh, discharged by foreign protection; W. T. Weaver, transferred to cavalry; A. O. Wood, transferred to cavalry.

H. H. Young, killed at Gettysburg; N. M. Young, killed 22nd June 1864 at Petersburg.

Macon Guards

Upon the outbreak of the war, the Macon Guards, which were organized in 1846 and served in the Mexican War, offered their services and were immediately called into active duty. The company was ordered to Savannah about April 15, 1861, and from thence to Tybee. After a short service on the island, the Guards returned for one day to Macon, were ordered to Virginia, and became a part of the celebrated Eighth Georgia Regiment. In the first battle of Manassas, the Guards occupied a conspicuous position and made a gallant fight. Only about a dozen of the company came out of the conflict untouched. The regiment of which it was a part also suffered severely, the gallant Colonel Bartow being among those killed.

No regiment during the war displayed greater courage or rendered more enduring service than the Eighth Georgia. It was Beauregard

who lifted his hat and said as the shattered regiment marched past after a terrific struggle on the field of battle: "Eighth Georgia, I salute you." "In Richmond", says a war chronicler, "I heard hundreds of voices, old and young, exclaim, 'There goes the Eighth Georgia—what brave boys'."

The company remained in the service of the Confederacy throughout the war, taking a prominent part in the battles of the two Manassas, Gettysburg, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Garnett's Farm, Malvern Hill, seven days around Richmond, the Wilderness, Thoroughfare Gap, Bristow Station, Spottsylvania Courthouse, Cold Harbor, Deep Bottom, Forts Harrison and Knoxville, and in many skirmishes, surrendering twelve men at Appomattox. In this terrific array of battle, the company distinguished itself repeatedly, by coolness under fire, daring feats, and impetuosity in the charge.

A roll of the company as found in the Telegraph and Messenger of 1874, showing the fate of each member as far as known, follows:

Captain L. M. Lamar, appointed Colonel of the Eighth Georgia, 1861, wounded at first Manassas, severely at Garnett's Farm, appointed Judge Advocate on General Beauregard's staff, 1862; Lieutenant M. R. Freeman, resigned 1861, appointed Captain in Findlay's battalion; Lieutenant Chris D. Findlay, resigned 1861, elected Major of Findlay's battalion; Lieutenant E. A. Wilcox, made Quartermaster, Eighth Georgia, later in Pension Bureau, Washington; Ensign H. J. Menard, elected Captain 1861, died in Richmond 1862; First Sergeant R. B. Findlay, elected Lieutenant 1861, resigned 1861, died in Macon later; Second Sergeant P. E. McGregor, elected Major Fifth Reserves; Third Sergeant E. P. Taylor, appointed Sergeant-Major Eighth Georgia, 1861, elected Lieutenant 1863, wounded at Manassas; Fourth Sergeant Thomas G. Hodgkins, elected Lieutenant 1862, killed at Gettysburg; Fifth Sergeant S. W. Walker, died; First Corporal C. M. Ballard, killed at Gettysburg; Second Corporal J. H. Field, elected Captain 1863, wounded severely at Gettysburg and Knoxville; Third Corporal F. Walker, elected Lieutenant 1863, wounded in first Manassas and at Nine Mile Road; Fourth Corporal A. W. Brantly, elected Lieutenant 1863, wounded at Gettysburg; Fifth Corporal W. F. Blue, wounded in First Manassas and later discharged; Secretary H. J. Peter, wounded severely in First Manassas, discharged.

Included among the Privates were: L. P. Askew, wounded at Manassas and Knoxville, appointed Sergeant; J. B. Alexander, killed at Gettysburg; John Andrews, color-bearer of Eighth Georgia, killed at Darbytown Road; W. C. Allen, killed at first Manassas; William R. Arnold, detailed in Richmond Hospital; W. R. Ainsworth, killed at first Manassas; L. W. Andrews, appointed Sergeant-Major Eighth

Georgia, wounded at Malvern Hill, second Manassas, and Cold Harbor; W. G. Anderson, discharged.

F. R. Boyd, appointed Lieutenant in North Carolina regiment; S. B. Bulkley, appointed drummer in Eighth Georgia, killed at the Wilderness; S. M. Barnes, discharged from disabilities; Newt Bustle, killed at Gettysburg; F. A. Blue, wounded at second Manassas; D. R. Bostick, wounded severely at the Wilderness, Nine Mile Road, and Gettysburg; Thomas Butler; J. A. Brantly, wounded at first Manassas; Mike Bird; G. P. Bond; William Blount, detailed in Quartermaster department; C. Burge, killed at Fort Harrison; Charles Boudet, transferred to Company A; William M. Bearden, wounded first Manassas, appointed Lieutenant in North Carolina regiment; C. H. Baird, discharged by substitute; Barron, killed at Spottsylvania; L. K. Bond, killed at second Manassas.

James Crenshaw, discharged from disabilities; T. R. Christian, wounded at Manassas, discharged; O. A. Caldwell, wounded at Manassas, discharged; John A. Casey, discharged by substitution; E. Collins, wounded at Manassas and discharged; H. E. Clarke, killed at Funkstown; Cumming, died in Farmville; William A. Carter, wounded at Green Pole Church.

H. Douglass Dial, discharged from disability; W. C. M. Dunson, wounded at Manassas and discharged; G. Dial; S. H. Darnell, discharged from disability; E. Damour, discharged.

E. M. Ells, transferred; M. Entz, discharged from disability; A. M. Egram, died.

James Fowler, wounded at the Wilderness, killed at Fort Harrison; Charles S. Findlay, appointed Corporal, discharged by substitution.

R. L. Gray, captured at Suffolk, never returned; E. T. Gray, wounded at the Wilderness; F. B. Green, discharged from disability; P. H. George, died; J. M. Goff, wounded at Manassas, died in Richmond; M. Gresham, wounded at Petersburg and discharged; William Garey, killed at Manassas; J. T. Gamble, discharged from disability; James P. Gamble, killed at Gettysburg; Gamble, wounded severely at Manassas and discharged.

L. W. Hunt, commissioned for Richmond Hospital service; E. H. Hicks, detailed for Richmond Hospital service; J. R. Hill, discharged from disability; John Homan, deserted; James Hill, discharged from disabilities; James Haddock, killed at Fort Harrison.

T. P. Jipson, killed at second Manassas; Jemmerson, discharged; L. W. Johnson, discharged by substitution; Thomas Jones, lost a leg at the Wilderness.

C. C. Kerney, discharged from disabilities.

Leonidas Lamar, killed at Manassas; John Lee, wounded at Gettys-

burg; J. C. Love, wounded at the Wilderness; L. P. Lucas, transferred; S. Leopold, died at Winchester.

A. McKenna, wounded at Manassas, detailed in hospital; John Mabry, detailed in hospital; M. A. Malsbey, wounded at Manassas and transferred; William Moore, deserted; A. McGraw, discharged from disability; V. A. Menard, discharged from over age; J. T. Matthews, detailed; H. Minchew, wounded at second Manassas, wounded at Darbytown Road, wounded at Spottsylvania Courthouse, and then deserted in 1865; J. A. McLaughlin, detailed in telegraph office; C. W. Matthews, wounded at the Wilderness, detailed in hospital; J. Minchew, wounded at Boonsboro, killed at Gettysburg; John McKeon, died; Charles Massenburg, wounded at second Manassas, lost an arm at Knoxville; W. F. Mason, discharged by substitution; Jack Matthews, killed in the battle of the Wilderness; McLeod, wounded at Manassas and discharged.

R. Nelson, wounded at Manassas and discharged.

Payne, wounded at the Wilderness and died; W. C. Poe, wounded at Manassas and transferred; J. W. Points, discharged from disabilities; S. Peck, detailed in Quartermaster department; George Patten, killed at second battle of Manassas.

D. H. Ross, wounded at Bristow Station.

T. Sullivan, wounded at Funkstown and Garnett's Farm; H. Smith, died in hospital in North Carolina; H. J. Sheffield, discharged from disability; D. G. Sheehan, detailed in Richmond Hospital; J. Sessions, discharged from disabilities; Robert Smith, wounded in the battle of the Wilderness; J. Schwab, musician in Eighth Georgia Band; A. Stanley, killed at second battle of Manassas; N. Statham, wounded at Bristow Station.

P. Trader, discharged from disabilities; B. Tutt, discharged by substitution; J. E. Taylor, wounded at Malvern Hill, transferred to cavalry.

W. Windham, detailed in hospital; L. Whitfield, killed at Garnett's Farm; Charles Walker, wounded at Manassas; T. Wright, discharged from disabilities; W. D. Woods, wounded at Manassas and later discharged; John Watson, wounded at Sharpsburg; Wiggins, transferred; C. P. Wilcox, wounded at Manassas; Felix Williams, drummer Eighth Georgia, wounded at Gettysburg.

On the original roll of the company as it left Macon appear the following names not included in the above: W. A. Williamson, surgeon, detailed at Richmond; Privates J. E. Hudgens, W. H. Spicer, James McGrath, John M. Jones, T. Y. Egan, A. G. M. Wiggins, Philemon Tracy, made Colonel of the Sixth Georgia Regiment, wounded twice before Richmond and killed at Sharpsburg.

Central City Blues

The Central City Blues, (Company H, Twelfth Georgia Regiment) was organized by the election of James G. Rodgers, Captain, and left Macon for Virginia on the 8th of June, 1861, with eighty-three men rank and file. It was mustered into service at Richmond, Virginia and assigned as Company H, together with one company each from the following counties: Putnam, Jones, Macon, Morgan, Muscogee, Sumter, Calhoun, Dooly, and Lowndes, to the Twelfth Georgia Regiment, with Edward Johnson as Colonel and Z. T. Connor, Lieutenant Colonel. The regiment, composed of about 1,000 men, left Richmond on the 7th of July, under orders for Camp Alleghany; and thenceforward in connection with the commands of Stonewall Jackson, Ewell, Early, and Gordon took part in most, if not all, of the leading battles of the Valley of Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Northern Virginia. After making a record for gallantry and patriotism service surpassed by none, the little remnant laid down their arms with the rest at Appomattox.

The muster role of the Blues included: Officers—Captain James G. Rodgers, promoted to Lieutenant Colonel of the Twelfth Georgia, wounded twice, killed and buried at Sharpsburg, September 17, 1862, commanding regiment at the time; First Lieutenant John M. Stubbs, resigned in 1862; Second Lieutenant Charles M. Willet, resigned in 1862, joined the Floyd Rifles, and died at home during the war; Third Lieutenant William A. Massey, mortally wounded at McDowell, May 10th, 1862; First Sergeant Oliver F. Evans, promoted to Captain upon the death of Captain Rodgers; Second Sergeant Edward Waterman, promoted to First Lieutenant, wounded in 1864, killed at Petersburg, April 3rd, 1865; Third Sergeant George Kell, died at home; Fourth Sergeant John P. Hooker, died at home; Fifth Sergeant John W. Ellis, afterwards promoted to Second Lieutenant; First Corporal Asa E. Sherwood, killed at McDowell, May 10th, 1862; Second Corporal John K. Harmon, died in Macon; Third Corporal William S. Renfroe, killed at Washington City 1864; Fourth Corporal, J. G. Eckman; Fifth Corporal W. S. C. Rogers, killed at McDowell, May 10, 1862; Quartermaster Robert J. Lightfoot, died in Macon; Chaplain W. P. Pledger, died in Atlanta.

Privates in the company included John Ammons; Asa Ammons, died at Bear Creek, Virginia, 1863; Jeff Allen, died during the war; William J. Adkins; Thomas E. Brady, died in Macon; Barnard Brady died in Macon; Eli Brown; Benjamin Bullock, died at home during the war; George A. Brandon; Henry J. Blount; B. R. Brown, discharged; William Beasley, promoted to Sergeant, killed May 10th, 1864, at Spottsylvania; W. T. Blanchard, died in camp; Eli W. Brooks, killed 1863 at Gettysburg; Lewis Brooks, died at Stribling Springs,

1861; Charles E. Collier; Samuel T. Cook; Jared R. Clark; William F. Culver; James Conner, killed May 5th, 1864, at the Wilderness; Joseph Crews; W. Scott Dyer, killed at Alleghany, December 13, 1861; John M. Duncan; M. W. Duncan; Davis; E. H. Franklin, died at camp; George W. Forsyth, died in Macon; Thomas J. Freeney; James Finney, died at Greenbrier, Virginia, 1861; John Glover; Dorsey Griffin, died in camp; John D. Griffin; Wash Henderson, died at Greenbrier, Virginia, 1861; Isaac Hurd, murdered at home since the war; William Hurd, killed at McDowell, May 10th, 1862; W. J. Herrington; Joseph M. Hooke; Howell P. Harris; Samuel Johnson, promoted to Sergeant, killed at Cedar Run Valley, Virginia, 1864; Richard M. Johnson; Joseph Johnson, killed at Gettysburg, 1863; Thomas Kent; Michael Kavenaugh; William W. Kimbrew; Charles Kitchens, died at camp, Alleghany, Virginia, 1861; T. J. Loughree; George Lowe; Jasper N. Mallett; James McCarthy; John Mills, discharged and died during the war; Archibald McDonald, killed May 12th, 1864 at Spottsylvania; Georgia H. Maynard, died at Staunton, Virginia, December 19th, 1861; Caleb McKinney; Thomas J. Mitchell; Christopher Martin; Silas Nichols, killed at Spottsylvania, May 10th, 1864; John Newsome; William H. Paine, missing near Gettysburg; John W. Owens; Ed I. Phillips; John Puckett; G. W. Roberts, missing on scout in Alleghany Mountains in 1861; James P. Ross; William Rabun; William C. Richards; William Rodan; Andrew Ready, discharged and died during war; James V. Schrimshire, killed on lines near Macon, 1864; L. F. Summerlin, died at Greenbrier, Virginia, 1861; G. B. Sanderlin; H. K. Scott, killed May 10th, 1864, at Spottsylvania; John Sweeney, missing in Valley, Virginia in 1863; M. K. Steward, died in prison during the war; Spikes; C. C. Wilder, promoted to First Sergeant; William A. Wilder; Joseph Wilder, killed at McDowell, May 10th, 1862; William West, T. T. Wimberly, T. J. Wimberly; Martin Welsh; Andrew J. Youngblood, promoted to Sergeant, killed at Washington City, 1864.

Jackson Artillery

The Jackson Artillery was the first Georgia organization ordered into the field at the beginning of the war. Thoroughly equipped, well drilled, and presenting an eminently military appearance, it offered to the chief executive of the state the finest opportunity to secure at short notice a defensive corps during the exciting days which preceded the firing on Fort Sumter. On January 24th, 1861, the organization was ordered to St. Simons Island to protect the state's property against possible Federal invasion. The roll of the company upon its departure from Macon included the following:

Officers:—Captain Theodore Parker; First Lieutenant John T.

Boifeuillet; Second Lieutenant George A. Dure; Third Lieutenant John B. Cumming; Fourth Lieutenant Charles E. Nisbet; Ensign Frank S. Bloom; Surgeon H. A. Mettauer; First Sergeant J. H. King; Second Sergeant F. Herzog; Third Sergeant Christopher Machold; Fourth Sergeant N. Binswanger; Fifth Sergeant A. A. Menard; First Corporal A. F. Herzog; Second Corporal J. P. Smith; Third Corporal J. King; Fourth Lieutenant F. Reichert; Fifth Lieutenant W. Schell; Secretary and Treasurer J. W. Blackshear; Quartermaster John Jaugstetter.

Privates:—J. M. Nelson; J. H. Otto; F. Mourer; R. Magill; Henry Christopher; James T. Nisbet; William C. Wilson; Valentine Kahn; Lucius B. Stone; James G. Price; A. M. Rowland; Anthony Schiff; John W. Pierce; John Dugan; M. Bates; P. B. Whittle; David McDesmond; S. McIntyre; J. W. Scheerer; David Ross; E. J. Nisbet; Phil Bender; J. Morris; G. W. Reese; George Pike; S. H. Washington; Thomas A. Newton; H. C. Taylor; M. G. Lynch; N. S. Bowen; Eugene Jeffers; A. Munch; W. L. Wooten; Alonzo Ray; A. Reid; D. Jenkins; J. Rainey; C. F. Stubbs; J. M. Alley; G. E. Ricks; Ira Anderson; W. W. Brazeal; W. C. H. Cooper; Allen Adams; W. A. Williamson; Christ Jaugstetter; W. N. Barry; F. F. Bohne; J. B. Arnold; D. Abraham; Harry Kent; P. Dewberry; G. S. Brenn; G. B. Foster; C. Schierstein; W. W. Parker; E. C. Grier; and J. C. Brown.

After three months duty on the Island, the Artillery returned to Macon and reorganized with George A. Dure, Captain; E. C. Grier, First Lieutenant; C. F. Stubbs, Jr., First Lieutenant; and T. L. Massenburg, Second Lieutenant. There were further changes in the organization caused by the transfer of many of its members to other companies. The company returned to St. Simon's Island in August, and remained in that vicinity until March, 1862, when it was ordered back to Macon. It remained here until May 16th, when it was ordered to Chattanooga under General Kirby Smith, in Bragg's Army. The roster of the company at that time was not available.

This company went to Chattanooga and took part in the heavy fighting around that city. It also participated in encounters at Battle Creek, Stevenson, Hartsville, and Murfreesboro, where Massenburg came into command, Captain Dure having been made Superintendent of the Macon and Brunswick Railroad. It was actively engaged in the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, and Missionary Ridge. At the latter place, Lieutenant G. B. Foster was killed, and the entire battery was lost. Refurnished with a battery, the company was engaged at Resaca, and in the battles of the Georgia campaign from Dalton to Jonesboro.

Transferred to Mobile, the Jackson Artillery was engaged in the defense of that harbor, where it lost seventeen men, and upon the

capture of the city, all of its records and rolls. The guns, being in the fortifications, were, of course, also lost. A remnant of the company escaped through the marshes, and surrendered with General Dick Taylor at Meridian, Mississippi in May.

Many interesting events are connected with the history of this company. At Lookout Mountain, a parrot-gun belonging to the battery burst while being fired, wounding eight or ten men standing near it. The shell from the gun exploded near the depot in Chattanooga three miles away, and in the midst of General Thomas' staff, killing and wounding eleven men. At the Battle of Missionary Ridge, Sergeant Willis Price, acting gunner, aimed at and killed with a shell a mounted officer advancing at the head of his command a mile away.

Thompson Guards

The Thompson Guards were originated out of Young America Fire Company No. 3 of Macon by the election of their foreman, James D. Van Valkenburg, Captain, after the enlistment of a large number of other young men in their ranks. The company was named the "Thompson Guards" in honor of Dr. M. S. Thompson, then Mayor of Macon, who liberally equipped it.

The company left for the Georgia coast on October 3rd, 1861, and served on St. Simon's and adjacent islands for the period of six months, after which term they returned and disbanded, but immediately reorganized and enlisted in the Confederate service.

In May, 1862, under the new organization, with 105 privates, they were sent to Charleston, South Carolina, where they remained a few days, and were transferred to the Sixty-first Georgia regiment, under Colonel John Hill Lamar, of Macon. Their first service was in the Valley of Virginia in General A. R. Lawton's brigade, and their first engagement was in the seven days battles around Richmond, June 1862. The company, with the regiment, was afterwards a part of General John B. Gordon's brigade; afterwards in General C. A. Evan's brigade, Gordon's division. They were engaged in the thickest of the many heavy battles in Virginia, as their list of casualties will show, until they surrendered with but a few survivors at Appomattox.

The greatest loss to the company and regiment occurred in May, 1864, when with General Early's great raid into Maryland and around Washington City, Captain Van Valkenburg had been promoted for gallantry to the rank of Major and afterwards Lieutenant Colonel. He and Colonel Lamar were killed in the same battle, and on the same day, concerning which a reference is made in the Macon Telegraph, July, 1864: "We got news from the Sixty-first Georgia. The Colonel and the Lieutenant Colonel of the regiment were both killed at the battle of Monocacy, Maryland. Both were valued citizens of Macon.

Colonel John Hill Lamar was quite young, and within the present year, married a beautiful and accomplished daughter of Virginia. A more gallant, ingenious, and right-minded youth never perished on the battlefield. He was withal a fine officer and very popular with the command. Lieutenant Colonel Van Valkenburg was nearer middle life and leaves a family to mourn the loss of husband and father. During a long residence in Macon, he was always distinguished by his public spirit and his popularity, and since the outbreak of the war has on several occasions been conspicuous for courage and address. He, it was, who on the 12th of May, 1863, after the terrible charge under General Gordon, in which a portion of the Confederate lines which had been lost, were recovered succeeded by his address in capturing a regiment of 480 Federal prisoners with the aid of forty men of the Sixty-first. Among the prisoners were one Colonel, two Majors, forty staff and company officers, one surgeon, and one stand of colors. The whole were turned over to the Provost Guard by Van Valkenburg and a receipt taken for the prisoners. The event was narrated in the papers at that time. It was a heavy blow which extinguished from the army and community two such brilliant lights and exemplary men as Lamar and Van Valkenburg."

In the battle of Monocacy, the Sixty-first regiment bore the brunt of the fight, and the Thompson Guards suffered severely. The regiment lost heavily in both officers and men. Six color bearers were killed in rapid succession. As one would fall, another would take the colors.

The roll of the company was made out by a few of the surviving members of the company following the war, and was handsomely written on parchment, neatly framed, with appropriate Confederate devices. It was placed in the custody of Ex-Sergeant George W. Sims. A copy is as follows:

Officers:—Captain James D. Van Valkenburg, killed at Monocacy Junction, Maryland, July 1864, having been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel; First Lieutenant C. S. Virgin, wounded at Gaine's Mill, June 1862, promoted Captain, July 1863; Second Lieutenant E. P. Lewis, killed at second battle of Manassas, August 1862; Third Lieutenant Eugene Jeffers, taken prisoner at Spottsylvania Courthouse, May 1864, promoted First Lieutenant, 1863; First Sergeant S. W. Berry, missing at Gaine's Mill, 1862, supposed killed; Second Sergeant George W. Sims, wounded in foot and leg in second battle of Manassas, August 1862, retired; Third Sergeant W. R. Avant, taken prisoner at Gettysburg, July 1863; Fourth Sergeant George C. Norris, lost left arm at Gettysburg, July 1863; Fifth Sergeant James A. Simpson, wounded at Gaine's Mill, taken prisoner at Gettysburg, 1863; Second Corporal W. P. Shaw, wounded in the hand at Cedar Moun-

tain; Third Corporal James R. James, wounded at Sharpsburg, Petersburg, and Gettysburg, and promoted to Lieutenant; Fourth Corporal Joshua G. Clark, killed at the battle of the Wilderness, 1864.

Privates:—James Barnett, wounded at Fredericksburg, lost left arm; James B. Dail, died December 1862 in hospital at Staunton, Virginia; John J. Peavy; W. S. King; J. W. Arnold, taken prisoner at Spottsylvania Courthouse, 1864; H. R. Scott; C. N. Bone, killed at Sharpsburg; W. V. Miller, died in the Valley, July 1864; G. W. Miller, lost a leg at Gettysburg; J. C. Davis, died at Winchester, Virginia, October 1862; H. E. Wolfe; John Davidson; J. P. Anderson, died in prison at Elmira, New York, 1864; John Ruff, wounded at Fredericksburg, 1862; W. H. Spicer, killed at Winchester, 1864; W. H. Berry, detailed as teamster, 1862; Joseph Reese; A. F. Pitts, died at Charlottesville, June 1862; James Hambrick; Jacob Smallwood, killed at Fisher's Hill, 1864; Augustus Miller, died at Fort Delaware, 1864; Dennis A. Norris; William Ford, wounded at second Manassas, 1862, killed at Gettysburg; Zack Roberts, died at Lynchburg, Virginia, 1863; Joel Cobb, wounded at Gettysburg and died in Macon, 1869; H. N. Mims, detailed in ordnance department, 1862; N. H. Miller, killed at second Manassas; Cullen Raines, killed at Gettysburg; James P. Chapman, lost a leg at Monocacy Junction, 1864; Robert Burkett; W. M. Heath, wounded in the hand; John V. King; H. R. Jones, transferred while at Charleston, 1862; Burton Raines, killed at Gettysburg.

W. P. Kelley, taken prisoner at Spottsylvania Courthouse, 1864; William Roberts, killed at Fredericksburg, December 1862; Solomon Renfroe, killed at Fredericksburg; Josiah Ford; Thomas C. Peyton, died at Charlottesville, 1862; J. W. Skipper; L. C. Lancaster, discharged at Orange Courthouse, 1864; William Booth; Thomas W. Moore, discharged in 1863; J. H. Brannon, died at Lynchburg, 1863; David Seaborn, killed, 1863; C. G. Jones, wounded at second Manassas and again at Gettysburg; W. J. Gresham; W. H. Harrell, discharged, 1862; Isaac Davidson, died in Macon, 1863; Tod Spicer; Jonathan P. Owens; W. J. Davis, taken prisoner at Spottsylvania Courthouse, 1864; Sanford Grooms, discharged 1864; Martin C. Rape, missing; W. H. Gresham; W. H. Bryce; W. H. Jesup, wounded at Mine Run; J. J. Moncrief; R. F. Reynolds, discharged 1862; John Doyle, discharged 1862; J. E. Venable, detailed in Macon arsenal, 1862; W. S. Stafford; J. A. King; A. D. McKing, wounded in the hand at second Manassas; W. G. T. Miller, killed in 1864; Charles Amerson; W. R. Bridger, wounded, taken prisoner at Sharpsburg; Ransom Grist, discharged; S. D. Arnold; W. B. Arnold; G. T. Bivins, died at Howard Grove Hospital, 1862; Lovett Johnson; W. S. King; William W. W. Poole; M. P. Herndon, wounded second Manassas and Wilderness, died at Charlottesville, 1862; Jos. Blair, killed at South Mountain; B. T. Blair;

McKinzie Blair; James Miller, killed at Fredericksburg, December 1862; W. A. Bradlock; James Thompson, transferred to cavalry at Savannah, 1862, died at hospital, Mount Jackson, Virginia, 1862; W. T. Taylor, killed at Bristow Station; Joseph A. Defour; William Jackson, killed at Smithville, Virginia, 1864; J. T. Knight, killed at Fisher's Hill, 1864; Giles M. Chapman, killed at Wilderness, May 1864; John Wilson; John B. Peyton, detailed in ordnance, 1862; G. N. Grist, discharged; W. T. Brown; J. R. Shaw, detailed as musician; Milton Williams, killed in the Valley, date not remembered; George Sizemore, wounded at Gettysburg; W. L. Shelton, musician, transferred to Twentieth Georgia; Ben Goodyear.

Napier Artillery

The Macon Light Artillery, also known as the Napier Artillery, was one of the finest equipped batteries of light artillery in the Confederate service. It consisted of ninety-six men rank and file, eighty-two horses, and eight mules. It was organized in 1861, and left Macon for Savannah under the command of Captain Leroy Napier, Jr., on January 29th, 1862 where it was attached to Walker's brigade. The roster of the roll at that time has been destroyed.

The company returned to Macon on May 6th, 1862 where it was reorganized, recruited, and mustered into the service of the Confederate States on May 20th by Lieutenant Rylander. On July 4th, 1862, it formed a part of the funeral escort of Colonel Robert A. Smith. It left Macon July 28th for Richmond, and was in the battle of Fredericksburg with two thirty-pound parrots, both of which exploded; was in North Carolina in a battalion of artillery, commanded by Major John C. Haskell, and participated in numerous engagements in south Virginia and North Carolina; was with Pickett when Commander Wood, with nine small boats, under cover of darkness, captured the "Underwater", then at Newbern; served with a section of the famous Washington artillery of New Orleans under Lieutenant Colonel E. F. Moseley, who was killed at Petersburg; next, at Suffolk with General Ransome in March 1864; at Plymouth, April 1864; at Petersburg, May 19th; at Swift Creek, May 16th; at Drury's Bluff, June 15th; fought at Baxter's Road, Battery 16, the Crater, and all through the siege and investment of Petersburg to Appomattox. Some of the command, under Major J. G. Blount, and the Adjutant, crossed overland and reached Lynchburg, where they destroyed the guns and disbanded.

In the fight at Petersburg, seven men were captured and six wounded at one gun; 200 rounds fired from one gun in five hours.

The following was the original armament of the battery; four six-pound guns, two twelve-pound howitzers, six caissons, forge tools and battery wagon made in New Orleans, purchased by Henry N. Ells, of

Macon. The armament was exchanged at Richmond for two thirty-pound parrots, four twenty-pound parrots, the former two exploded on the 110th round and the latter two were disabled. Afterwards, received four Napoleons, which were lost at Petersburg, four six-pound guns, which were exchanged for four more Napoleons, two of which were surrendered at Appomattox, the other two carried to Lynchburg, and there spiked and destroyed.

The effective fire of the battery at Fredericksburg was highly complimented by General E. P. Alexander, who made special mention of gaps cut in the enemy's ranks visible at the distance of a mile, and a long cut of the unfinished Orange Railroad was several times raked through by the thirty-pound parrot which enfiladed it from Lee's Hill while filled with troops. They were single shots which were terrible to look at. The following is the roll of the company at the time it left Macon for Virginia, July 20, 1862, which is based on records available at this time:

Officers:—Captain H. N. Ells, resigned account of bad health; First Lieutenant W. F. Anderson, resigned; Junior First Lieutenant H. A. Troutman, resigned, appointed Quartermaster; Second Lieutenant C. W. Slaten, promoted to Captain; Junior Second Lieutenant F. M. Folds, promoted First Lieutenant; Sergeant Major J. E. Weddon; Quartermaster Sergeant W. C. H. Cooper; First Sergeant H. M. Varner, promoted to Lieutenant; Second Sergeant H. T. Vardell; Third Sergeant George W. Reese; Fourth Sergeant Melville Anderson; Fifth Sergeant C. E. Carnes; Sixth Sergeant N. M. Hodgkins, promoted Adjutant of battalion; Seventh Sergeant W. J. Gray; First Corporal J. King; Second Corporal R. H. Hines; Third Corporal E. M. Ells; Fourth Corporal George Shepard; Fifth Corporal E. P. Strong; Sixth Corporal E. H. Rutherford; Seventh Corporal H. C. Corbin; Eighth Corporal W. F. Blue; Ninth Corporal Alexander Moffett; Tenth Corporal L. R. Menard; Eleventh Corporal A. Waitze; Twelfth Corporal M. McKinney; Surgeon F. G. Castien; Secretary F. W. Strong; and Captain's Orderly J. T. Stewart.

Privates:—C. Aldrich; James Angel; James Burns; T. C. Belyne; L. S. Bates; E. Burgamy; J. E. Brannan; C. H. Craft; T. Carroll; D. Cradlock; J. R. Collins; W. H. Durden; P. Dixon; W. J. Dixon; R. Ellis; W. Edge; W. H. Ellison; W. A. Evans; James W. Findlay; P. Fleming; D. Feely; A. Gunn; J. Q. Gallagher; J. C. Hancock; W. F. Holland; James Hines; Moses Holloway; J. P. Humphries; J. C. Hudson; J. H. Killingsworth; Hugh Lawson; Charles Lehman; S. Lockett; E. J. Lewis, deserted; G. W. Lamb; J. H. Lingould; J. McKinney; P. McGinty; J. W. McDonald; T. J. Murphy; J. Mixon; P. McGlawn; C. G. Morton; J. L. Norris, deserted; E. C. Powers; D. P. Pugh; A. Robertson; A. Ross; F. Reichert; H. G. Rose; J. L.

Solomon; L. G. Snipes; W. W. Snipes; E. Stapleton; W. G. Shepard; Alex Siler; deserted; W. J. Searsy; J. M. Saunders; W. J. Taylor; A. P. Tripod; John Westor; C. A. Wynne; W. J. Weaver; L. H. Washington; T. K. Youngblood; J. Youngblood.

The following named persons afterwards joined the company or were transferred or assigned to it while in Virginia or North Carolina:

Aldrich; Barton; Barnett; Codey; Cresby; Crow; Clique; Cladwick; Clarke; Donnovant; Dixon; Donohue; Dickinson; Daniels; Dease; Ellis; Charles; Richard S. Edwards, wounded at Petersburg, April 22nd, 1865 and died at Washington Street Hospital, April 10th; Freeman; Flynn; Findlay; Green; Grover; Gibson; Harrison; Hardage; Haynes; Johnson; Kennedy; Lundy; Lawson; Lightfoot; McQueen; Moran; Mapp; Murphy; Musselwhite; McCracken; Maddox; Murray; Oppenheimer; Olmstead; Parham; Parvis; Rodgers; Scarborough; Simmons; Smith; Sursey; Sutton; Timmons; Virgin; Wynee; Warren; Woodward; and Williams.

The company was equipped in armament, tents, etc., through the liberality of a number of Macon citizens. Among the most liberal subscribers were H. N. Ells, Leroy Napier, Sr., L. N. Whittle, T. R. Bloom, C. D. Findlay, and others at a cost of approximately five thousand dollars.

Lamar Infantry

The Lamar Infantry was organized in September 1861, by the election of T. W. Brantley, Captain; John A. McManus, First Lieutenant; J. H. Dunlap Senior Second Lieutenant; W. E. Jenkins, Junior Second Lieutenant; and George E. Ricks, Sergeant. Besides the commissioned and non-commissioned officers, the roll of the company included 126 privates. This company was named in honor of the lamented John B. Lamar, who furnished the men with entire equipment, including tents, uniforms, patent-leather haversacks, shoes, etc. Among its members were many of the best men from Jones County. It was the largest and best equipped company sent from Bibb County, and was mustered into state service at Camp Harrison, on the Savannah and Gulf Railroad, October 18th, 1861. Together with the Macon County Infantry, Everett Guards from Fort Valley, Ross Volunteers from Bibb County, and the Columbus Minute Boys from Muscogee County, it formed the first battalion, state forces, electing William H. Ross, Lieutenant Colonel and appointing B. A. Wise, Adjutant. The company remained in state service until April 17th, 1862. It was reorganized on May 17th, 1862 with 150 men, rank and file, and mustered into Confederate States service in the Fifty-fourth Georgia regiment, Colonel C. H. Way, of Savannah, commanding.

The Lamar Infantry was the largest company in the regiment and was designated Company A. It was detached and assigned to the Georgia Siege Train Artillery, commanded by Major George L. Buist, of Charleston, South Carolina, serving along the coast defenses, and at the Battle of Olustee, Florida. It remained in connection with the artillery train until May, 1864, when ordered to rejoin the regiment and report to General Joseph E. Johnston, at Dalton, Georgia, where it was assigned to General W. H. Walker's brigade and remained with it until that gallant officer was killed. It was then assigned to Cleburn's division, and participated in all of the battles in which this division was engaged down to Jonesboro, Georgia. It then moved through Alabama with General Hood into Tennessee, and engaged in all of the battles of that campaign. Finally, it rejoined General Johnston in North Carolina, and was surrendered as a part of his army in 1865. The company's records were captured at Dalton, and many items of interest concerning its history were lost.

The following is the roll of the company and a report of each of its members as far as information can be obtained:

Officers:—Captain T. W. Brantley, promoted to Major in 1864; First Lieutenant John A. McManus, authorized to raise a new company, afterwards Major of Third Georgia Reserves; Second Lieutenant John H. Dunlap, resigned September 1862 from failing health; Third Lieutenant William E. Jenkins, promoted to Second Lieutenant, October 1862, First Lieutenant, June 1864, and Captain, 1865; First Sergeant George E. Ricks, died at Savannah, July 1862; Second Sergeant H. L. Smith, promoted to Orderly Sergeant, July 1862, elected Third Lieutenant, November 1862, promoted Second Lieutenant, 1864, promoted First Lieutenant, 1865; Third Sergeant Robert W. Smith, promoted to Orderly Sergeant, November 1862, to Third Lieutenant, 1864, and to Second Lieutenant, 1865, wounded near Jonesboro, September 1864; Fourth Sergeant J. N. Harris, promoted to Orderly, July 1864; Fifth Sergeant A. J. Brantley, promoted to Second Sergeant; First Corporal J. J. Harris, transferred to engineer corps, 1863; Second Corporal James Raley, wounded near Atlanta, July 22nd, 1864, and died of wounds; Third Corporal George D. Knight, captured; Fourth Corporal Campbell.

Privates:—John Armor, transferred to sharpshooters, June 1862; Peter Allen; John Allen; David Allen; John F. Avera; William Avera; S. Aiken.

Charles Baker; P. R. Bird; E. F. Bass; J. T. Bates; James E. Bonhart; James B. Bailey; J. P. Brooks; J. R. Barfield, promoted to Fourth Sergeant, 1864; W. J. W. Brantley, died at Savannah, July 1863; H. A. Brantley; O. D. Britt; James Bowers, transferred to sharpshooters, 1862, later killed by a horse; Henry Britt; L. H. Britt; J. J. Britt;

I. D. Britt, wounded near Lost Mountain, died of wounds June 1864; M. W. Bass, supposed to be dead; H. S. Brantley, wounded 1863 at Campbellton Roads; Louis Bronson; Sol Baker, wounded near Kingston, 1864; B. M. Bateman, wounded near Atlanta, 1864; James Barfield; W. F. Brown; M. V. Brantley.

J. M. Crawford, transferred to sharpshooters, 1862, supposed to be dead; Owen Cummings, died at Savannah, 1863; Talbot Combs, captured near Marietta; John Churchill, captured near Resaca, 1864; Jesse Cobb.

William Dunlap; A. O. Dennis, died at Savannah, July 1863; B. Downs; James Dougherty; Henry C. Davis.

S. Elliott and J. Early.

C. Falvey; Robert Faulk; Henry Faulk, transferred to sharpshooters, 1862; William Flowers; Robert L. Felts; L. A. Ford; Charles Foilendore; William Fountain; J. M. Fountain; Sam P. Finney, wounded and died in Tennessee, 1864; George T. Fennel; Elbert Feagin, wounded near Atlanta, July 1864; Joe Foilendore.

John Gaffrey; D. B. Grooms; J. W. Gaillard; Dan Giles, killed near Lost Mountain, June 1864.

E. W. Harvey, captured and died in prison; William Hysler; Frank Holloman; John W. Hudson; D. B. Hudson; W. J. Hudson; Riley Herrington, died upon release from prison following capture; A. Hotelling; Alford Hicks, wounded near Jonesboro, August 1864; James Henderson; Frank Harris; John Herington; Charles Hanesley; D. S. House, killed at asylum following war; J. R. Hodges; Thomas Hardy.

Jacob Jordan; J. J. Jordan; S. P. Johnson; James L. Joiner; W. T. Johnson, wounded July 1864; Jack Jones; Perry W. Jackson; James Jessup; James W. Jasper.

Thomas D. King; Thomas M. Kimbrew; Ed S. Kimbrew; O. W. Kitchens; Urias Kitchens; M. W. Kitchens; W. H. Kitchens.

W. J. Langston; R. H. Lewis; Frank Lester; John Lester; T. C. Lester; W. J. Land, died in Atlanta; Frank M. Lawrence; J. C. Lyles.

B. McAdams, wounded in July 1864, near Marietta; James Mixon, wounded at Kennesaw Mountain, June 1864; W. W. Moore, died 1863; S. D. May, died during war; James Marshall; Dan Mason; John Mason; J. M. Mason; S. O. Moore, died in Savannah, 1863; Robert Massett, killed near Calhoun, Georgia, 1864; J. J. Mulkey; W. G. Mulkey; James Morris, died during war.

H. Newsom, killed near Kingston, June 1864; W. A. Noland; Joe Nodette; W. A. Noland.

C. A. J. Parish; Thomas Powers; W. Patterson, killed at Jonesboro, September 1864; A. W. Patterson; Green Payne; S. L. Patterson.

Rueben Roberts; F. M. Ryle; W. G. Rye; W. H. Roberts, died in prison in 1864; Rutledge, transferred to sharpshooters, June 1862;

William Rabin; W. L. Richardson; R. J. Roberts, died in prison, 1864; W. W. Rye, transferred to sharpshooters, 1862; J. T. Roquemore; Sol Roberts; John W. Ross; E. J. Ritchie.

Joe Stephens; F. B. Slocumb, died at Savannah, 1862; John W. Smith; W. Stewart; Crawford Smith; William B. Scott; W. Simmons, transferred to sharpshooters, 1862; A. P. Simmons; W. D. Smith; Cicero C. Smith, promoted to Third Sergeant, 1864; William Sawyer; H. J. Sharp; Caleb Stephens, died during war; John Stewart; Silas Stewart; John J. Smith.

Richard Tay, killed near Lost Mountain, 1863; Jerry Taylor; James Teel; J. W. Thurmond, promoted to Sergeant, 1864; James Tidwell; Moses Tucker, wounded near Atlanta, July 4 1864; George Tidwell; Stephen Tucker; Wiley Vann, died during war; William Visage; B. Vinson.

J. Well; William Wells; A. O. Wheeler; J. Marion Wheeler; William Wiggins, died at Savannah, August 1863; W. H. T. Wood; J. C. Wood, killed at Jonesboro, September 1864; A. J. Wood; Dan Wood, died in prison, 1864; B. Wood, died in prison, 1864; J. D. White; J. W. J. Woodall; J. S. Wilcoxion.

Bibb County Cavalry

With an illustrious record behind it, the Bibb County Cavalry was organized again upon the breaking out of the War Between the States and made a valuable contribution to the cause of the Confederacy during the war.

As early as 1833, a military corps was organized in Macon under the name of the Bibb County Cavalry. In 1836, the hostile Indians were committing depredations in Alabama and along the Chattahoochee River which caused that part of the state no little trouble and finally culminated in open war against the whites. Governors Clay, of Alabama, and Schley, of Georgia, called out the militia of their respective states. The Georgia companies, forty-four in all, numbering 1200 men, quickly rendezvoused at Columbus, including the Bibb County Cavalry with Captain Eleazar McCall in command, which left Macon for action on May 27th. Governor Schley passed through Macon on May 29th en route to Columbus with Generals Winfield Scott and M. S. Jessup. After disposing of the troops at Columbus, General Jessup selected the Bibb and Talbot County cavalry as an escort for the reconnaissance of the Indian camps between that place and Tuskegee, Alabama. They passed within three miles of Neah Micco's camp, which contained 700 Indian warriors, and came upon a large body of them. The two companies were formed for action, fired and killed a number of the hostiles. After riding sixty miles, they reached Tuskegee that night, and the next day proceeded within twenty miles

of Montgomery. Upon their return, the following order was issued, which is copied from the original manuscript in the possession of the family of the late Captain McCall:

"Headquarters Western Division of the Army of the South, Tuskegee, June 5th, 1836—Order No. 2—Major General Jessup returns thanks to Captain McCall and Captain Bush, and the officers and soldiers of their commands for their good conduct and soldierly deportment on their march from Columbus to this place, and particularly for the promptness with which they formed for action, and the firmness they evidenced when the enemy were reported to be in their front. The gallant bearing on that occasion is sufficient evidence of their determination to do their duty; and that should occasion offer, they will do honor to themselves and their country. M. S. Jesup."

The company acted as a guard to the Governor to Fort Mitchell, and joined the expedition to Roanoke and found that place had been reduced to ashes by the Indians. On the 27th of June, they reached Concord, twenty-five miles from Cuthbert, and near the place where thirteen persons, including women and children, had been massacred and a large number badly wounded. On the 29th, they reached Chickasawhatchie swamp, where the Indians were secreted. The cavalry dismounted, formed into infantry, and went into the swamp. The Indians fired upon them, killing one and wounding seven. A charge was made and the Indians fled, leaving everything in their camp upon a hammock except their women and children. Fifteen bodies of their dead were left in their flight. On the 12th, the hostiles were again found in the swamp, and again defeated. The war was soon afterwards closed in Alabama by the surrender of the Indians.

At the beginning of the War Between the States, the Cavalry was reorganized under Captain Lockett and served for about six months in the vicinity of Savannah, where it disbanded. On May 2nd, 1862, a new corps was organized for service with the Confederate Army, with the election of Samuel S. Dunlap, as Captain, with 106 men, rank and file. The new company left Macon on May 12th, joined Colonel Phillips' legion stationed at Hardeville, South Carolina, and was ordered to Richmond, Virginia where it was transferred to General Wade Hampton's brigade. They overtook this brigade at Harper's Ferry and proceeded on to Sharpsburg where they participated in the battle at that place. Afterwards, the company engaged in all of the important battles in which Hampton's brigade participated. Captain Dunlap was tendered a promotion in rank by General Hampton as a member of his staff, but he declined the compliment, preferring to remain with his gallant company, which was as much attached to him as he was to them. The company surrendered, having been reduced to twenty men, under command of Lieutenant G. M. Davis, acting

Captain, with General J. E. Johnston in North Carolina in 1865 at the close of the war. The following is the muster role of the group:

Officers:—Captain S. S. Dunlap, badly wounded at Gettysburg; First Lieutenant A. L. Clinkscales, resigned; Second Lieutenant A. F. Hunter, promoted to First Lieutenant; Third Lieutenant G. M. Davis, promoted to Second Lieutenant; Third Lieutenant W. A. McLane; First Sergeant J. W. Avant, wounded at Gettysburg, promoted to Lieutenant; Second Sergeant James Baker; Third Sergeant J. L. Kinion; Fourth Sergeant George W. Barfield; First Corporal G. D. Walker; Second Corporal G. W. Seymour; Third Corporal E. C. Gilbert; Fourth Corporal T. W. Harris, killed at Gettysburg.

Privates:—W. N. Abney; T. W. Anderson; R. C. Avant.

John Baker; J. C. Bazemore, died at Third Georgia Hospital, Richmond, August 1862; J. T. Bazenirel; S. T. Bragg; J. W. Burge; James Burns; W. P. Burns, killed during war; Joseph Burns.

John Cowan; G. W. Chapman; G. M. Chapman.

J. E. Ellis; E. E. Evans; John Evans; T. J. Evans; Thomas Edwards, killed at Bentonville.

Seaborn Fails; C. Harris, captured November 23rd, 1863; M. M. Hall; M. P. Henderson; James Holder; L. Holloman; Doc Howell; Charles Humphries; Ed Hawkins, badly wounded.

J. D. Johns, died at Richmond, 1863; Jones; Thomas Jordan; William Jordan, killed at Funkstown, 1863; T. K. Johnson; Perry Jackson.

J. T. Kilpatrick; Kendricks; George W. King; H. J. King, died during the war.

J. H. P. Lamar; F. F. Lavender, died at Culpepper Courthouse, 1863; J. E. Lee, killed south of Petersburg, October 1864, and buried by the Masons in Federal lines; J. J. Lee; J. L. Lumsden, left the company on promotion; J. E. Lizenby, died at Richmond, 1862; J. W. Lowe; Thomas Lowe, captured and killed by the enemy; Alex Lanier.

M. A. Marshall; J. N. Matthews; J. M. Matthews; W. A. McLane, elected Third Lieutenant; Alex Mills; J. M. Mills; Tom Mills; E. T. Morton; J. H. Neal; T. C. Nelson; J. L. Overby; Henry H. Patterson; Sam Powell.

J. H. Ray, wounded and reported dead, but returned to the company a year afterwards; J. R. Ray, died during war; B. F. Reed.

H. H. Seymour; R. H. Seymour; N. S. Shelbutton; Jeff Saunders; Isaac Sikes, wounded at Gettysburg; R. Slappy; John Smith; S. P. Smith.

B. M. Tarver; W. B. Tarver; A. C. Tharp; W. N. Valentine; W. A. Walker; J. N. Walker; D. K. Walker; F. J. Wells; H. L. Williams

The War In Georgia

Because of her favorable geographic position, in the heart of the Confederacy, Georgia was practically immune from invasion during the early stages of the war. The war swayed back and forth for three years through Virginia, Tennessee, and Mississippi, cutting the Confederacy into two parts with the fall of Vicksburg, before Georgia felt the ravages of invasion. The only military excitement within the state before the grand invasion of 1864 consisted of an attempt by the Federals in 1861 to seize Savannah; two efforts of Federal raiders to cut the Western and Atlantic Railroad in North Georgia; and the establishment at Andersonville of one of the principal prison camps in the Confederacy. During the latter part of 1861, Federal troops made a concerted effort to capture Savannah but were held off by the Confederate forces of General A. R. Lawton, and a few gunboats in the Savannah River under the command of Commodore Josiah Tattnall. In 1862, they were able to capture Fort Pulaski, but never advanced any closer to Savannah than that point. In 1863, they burned Darien and made three determined attacks against Fort McAllister on the Ogeechee, but were repulsed each time. On two occasions, hand-picked Federal forces attempted to cut the railroad between Atlanta and Chattanooga. The first attempt was made by James Andrews and a party of twenty-one Federal soldiers dressed as civilians in 1862. This group worked their way down into the state by means of their disguise and seized a train at Big Shanty, twenty-five miles north of Atlanta. They attempted to run it northward and burn all of the bridges behind them. When Southern forces learned of their plans, an exciting race took place, and so hotly were the raiders pursued by aroused Georgians, that little damage was done. The raiders were finally captured and seven of them were hanged as spies, according to the rules of war. The other attempt to cut the railroad was made by Colonel A. D. Streight in command of 1500 Federal troops, who invaded the state from Alabama. General N. B. Forrest pursued him with a force of 500 men, and aided with information from the heroine, Emma Sansom, encountered Streight near Rome where he tricked him into surrendering his entire force.[37]

During the spring of 1864, Federal forces under the command of General William T. Sherman invaded Georgia from Tennessee. General Joseph E. Johnston stood ready to oppose Sherman in his march against Atlanta, but being greatly out-numbered fought a defensive campaign. It was his strategy to strongly fortify key positions and to hold on until Sherman attacked or out-flanked him. Time after time, Johnston offered battle in strong entrenchments, but Sherman refused to accept it. This delaying game continued for four months, with

37. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

Johnston holding a much superior force from their main objective. At the end of June, Johnston was strongly fortified at Kennesaw Mountain ,twenty-five miles north of Atlanta, still blocking Sherman from the city. At this point, Sherman abandoned caution and determined to accept battle. Selecting what he thought was the weakest point in Johnston's line, he attacked in full strength with the hope of breaking through. But the Confederates held firm, and he was thrown back with a loss of 3,000 with the Confederates lost only 800. It was the only military mistake that Sherman admitted he ever made. Again the Federals started their flanking movements and on July 9th reached the north bank of the Chattahoochee, Johnston retiring in good order to the south bank. The union forces were now within six miles of Atlanta. During this campaign, although no great battles had been fought, there had been constant skirmishing at Dalton, Resaca, and New Hope Church with the result that the Union loss was 17,000 while the Confederates lost 14,500.

Because of the fact that he had been constantly on the defense, ever falling back, there was a clamor for General Johnston's removal, although his tactics were identical with those of General Lee before Grant in Virginia. Because of this criticism, he was replaced on July 17th by General J. B. Hood, a man who was ready to fight. Within eleven days, Hood fought and lost three battles, Peachtree Creek, Atlanta, and Ezra Church. He lost 10,000 men while the Federal losses were 9,000. But for all this, Atlanta was not taken. Finally, Sherman threw out flanking movements which threatened to encircle him, and Hood evacuated the city on September 2nd. The next day, it was occupied by the union forces.[38]

Macon Is Attacked

While these engagements were taking place near Atlanta, General George Stoneman raided the state almost to the gates of Macon. Raids were made westward as far as the Alabama line and extended eastward beyond Covington. Railroad property was the main target of destruction although the personal property of many unprotected families in the small towns and country was also plundered. On the 29th of July, Captain Dunlap, commanding a party of scouts, reported a large body of Federal cavalry on the Clinton Road, rapidly approaching Macon. All of the militia and home guards in the city and county were immediately ordered under arms. Governor Brown was in the city at the time and issued a proclamation calling upon every man, citizen, or refugee, who had a gun of any kind or who could get one, to report at the courthouse, with the least possible delay, to be formed into companies for the protection and defense of the city. The citizens responded promptly and by seven o'clock the next morning, General

38. Bassett: A Short History of the United States.

Cobb had two thousand men posted in line of battle between East Macon and Walnut Creek. On the evening of the 29th, six hundred Tennesseans, under the command of Major John W. Nisbet, and about a thousand state militia had arrived on their way to Atlanta from Andersonville, and were detained here for the defense of the city. The Macon forces, under the command of Colonel J. B. Cumming, formed on the Clinton Road. There was also a battery of three pieces supporting them under the command of Captain Peschke. This group became the left of the line. Another battery, under Major Edwin Taliaferro, was stationed on a hill beyond Fort Hawkins. Lieutenant Colonel Findlay's Georgia Reserves were between this battery and the forces under Cumming.

On the west side of the river, Company B, Macon Volunteers, under Captain B. F. Ross; a company of operatives from the Macon factory, under Major M. R. Rogers; a company of convalescents from the hospitals, under Lieutenant Colonel C. L. Wiley; the Firemen Guards under Lieutenant Nicoll, and the Silver Greys, a full company of aged gentlemen, under Captain J. R. Armstrong were posted on the Vineville Road. The cavalry of Stoneman advanced within three miles of East Macon on the morning of the 30th, and the Confederate forces on the west side of the river were ordered to march to East Macon, and upon reaching the bridge, heard sounds of battle to the left. They were under the command of Colonel Gibbs, and advanced to the right of Taliaferro's battery, leaving the Silver Greys to guard the Central Railroad bridge.

The enemy had placed a battery at Dunlap's farm, and fired shots which fell freely around the suburbs of Macon. One shot fell into the heart of the city, tearing away a portion of a column at the home of Judge Asa Holt on Mulberry Street. This home still remains and a mended column and dent in the floor of the hallway are the only remaining evidence of the cannon ball, which struck the sand sidewalk and ricocheted upward through the parlor into the hall, damaging the second column from the left.[39]

The Federals approached the city from the Milledgeville Road, and the first action of the battle started on the left side of the line. Cumming had directed Peschke's battery to withhold their fire until the enemy was within two to three hundred yards of their front. This they did, and when they finally opened fire with a well directed volley, Nisbet's battalion was ordered to charge. The union forces retreated before this charge and fell back toward Cross Keys. During this early action, the Confederates lost seven killed and thirty-six wounded. The militia and Findlay's command were held in reserve to follow the charge, if necessary. Stoneman had formed a line of several hundred

39. The Macon Guide—Junior Chamber of Commerce.



Asa G. Holt Home on Mulberry Street, Macon Home Struck by Cannon
Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones

sharp-shooters, in the meantime, who engaged the right side of the line under Colonel Gibbs. Gibbs' forces, in shifting position from Fort Hawkins to the farm of George W. Adams, were in the line of fire, and two were killed and nine wounded before they completed their maneuver. When the order was finally given to take the offensive, they fired with accuracy and soon put the enemy to a hasty retreat. General Joseph E. Johnston was present in Macon at the time of the battle and tendered his services to General Cobb. General Cobb asked him to take command, which he declined to do, but stood by General Cobb and gave directions as the battle progressed.[40]

General Stoneman, upon leaving Atlanta, had divided his forces into three separate groups. It was agreed that one would advance upon Macon by coming down the main road through Griffin and Forsyth, and would engage any local forces at Macon in the rear, while he and the other two columns were to approach from other directions, all converging upon this city at the same time. His first column was quickly eliminated when it was intercepted by a portion of General Hood's army between Atlanta and Griffin. Stoneman proceeded on to Clinton,

40. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.

where he learned for the first time that the city bridge at Macon had been washed away a short time before by a freshet, and that General Joseph E. Johnston was in Macon. He calculated that Macon had been reinforced by units from Hood's army in Atlanta. On arriving near the city, his fears were further increased by the large number of troops which he saw at his front, and by the rapid and continuous fire from the two artillery batteries assisting in the defense of the city. Believing that an all-out attempt to capture the city would be too difficult and hazardous, he kept one column of about a thousand men, principally sharp-shooters, and several artillery pieces, to fake an attack on the city while he led another column upon several undefended points on the Central Railroad, tearing up track and burning bridges over Walnut Creek and the Oconee River. His forces also destroyed several railroad cars and locomotives at Gordon and Griswoldville, and committed the usual amount of destruction and depredations associated with Federal raiders.

After a day of continuous gunfire, artillery exchange, and reconnoitering, Stoneman withdrew his forces which were assaulting Macon, and sent out other raiding parties into rural areas. On August 1st, while continuing his withdrawal from Macon, he was surprised at Sunrise Church, near Clinton, by a portion of Wheeler's cavalry under the command of General Iverson, and after a short exchange of shots, surrendered. The main body of the enemy was not in the engagement, however, and succeeded in making their way back to Atlanta. Stoneman, with about five hundred captured troops, was marched into Macon by Iverson. All of Stoneman's artillery, over one thousand eight-shooter rifles, and a large number of horses were captured by the Confederates, and for several days, small detachments of his forces were picked up in the woods and brought in as captives.[41]

General Joseph E. Johnston, in his "narrative" of the war in referring to the attack on Macon states: "It was attacked by a division of United States cavalry with the object, probably, of destroying the valuable workshops which had been established there by the Chief of Ordnance, General Gorgas. The place had neither entrenchments nor garrison. Fortunately, however, two regiments of the militia promised me while commanding the army, by Governor Brown, were passing on their way to Atlanta. Their officers were serving in the army as privates, so they had none.

"With them, and as many of the mechanics of the workshops and volunteers of the town, as he could find arms for, in all,—fifteen or eighteen hundred, — General Cobb met the Federals on the high ground east of the Ocmulgee, and repulsed them after a contest of several hours, by his own courage and judicious disposition, and the

41. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

excellent conduct of his troops, who heard hostile shots then for the first time."

General W. T. Sherman, in the second volume of his "Memoirs" refers to the raid on Macon, as follows: "Stoneman had not obeyed his order to attack the railroad first before going to Macon and Andersonville, but had crossed the Ocmulgee river high up near Covington ,and had gone down that river on the east bank. He reached Clinton, and sent out detachments which struck the railroad leading from Macon to Savannah, at Griswold station, where they found and destroyed seventeen locomotives and over a hundred cars; then went on, burned the bridge across the Oconee, and reunited the division before Macon. Stoneman shelled the town across the river, but could not cross over by the bridge, and returned to Clinton where he found his retreat obstructed by a superior force. There he became bewildered and sacrificed himself for the safety of his command. He occupied the attention of the enemy by a small force of seven hundred men, giving Colonels Adams and Capron leave, with their brigades, to cut their way back to me at Atlanta. The former reached us entire, but the latter was struck and scattered at some place further north, and came in by detachments. Stoneman surrendered, and became a prisoner until he was exchanged some time later, late in September, at Rough and Ready."

War Politics

After the forces of General Sherman occupied Atlanta, Federal authorities, knowing of the hostility which existed between Governor Brown and President Davis, attempted to induce Brown to withdraw Georgia from the war and to make peace. Several overtures were made to Brown by Sherman, but he believed such a move impractical under the circumstances and rejected the proposals. However, he entered into another heated controversy with Davis when the Secretary of War of the Confederacy, James A. Seddon, attempted to incorporate 10,000 state militia into the Confederate army. Governor Brown had withdrawn the militia from General Hood's army after the fall of Atlanta. The President of the Confederacy called upon Brown for his militia to be retained with General Hood's army. Governor Brown declined the request. The situation in Georgia appeared to be so grave that on September 23rd, President Davis and Benjamin H. Hill visited Macon, and at the request of a large number of citizens, who had convened at the Baptist Church on hospital and other benevolent purposes, President Davis made an address. Though his visit was a surprise, there was a large gathering present to hear him. The President expressed himself hopeful of the success of the Confederacy despite the fall of Atlanta. He stated that he had removed General Johnston

42. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

as commander of Georgia forces because he would not fight. He was very severe upon the campaign of that officer, and the dissensions which had been heard in Georgia prejudicial to his own conduct of the war. He repelled the charge that he sacrificed Georgia for the security of Virginia, and laid the charge to Governor Brown, whom he severely denounced. He stated that the armies had been reduced two-thirds by sickness of the troops and absence without leave. He made an eloquent appeal to the citizens everywhere, and the women in particular, to persuade the absentees to return to their posts of duty.[43] He stated that his purpose was to retrieve Atlanta by sending Hood's army to the rear of Sherman to destroy the sources of supply, etc., and thus force the enemy into starvation, or a retreat which would be worse than that of Napoleon from Moscow.

President Davis visited other sections of the state during October trying to steel the hearts of the people against surrendering, and at the same time, keeping his eye on Governor Brown, and the latest moves of the Federal forces. He made several speeches filled with defiance and determination to fight to the end, bitter as it might be. He declared that the retreat from Dalton to Atlanta had been a "deep disgrace", and that anyone who said he was abandoning Georgia was a "miserable man" and a "scoundrel".[44]

While this exchange of political view was occurring in Georgia, politics in the North were also creating considerable excitement. The Republicans had passed laws giving the President control over the Lincoln for re-election and Andrew Johnson for Vice-President. Its platform endorsed and approved all of the actions of the Lincoln administration, and urged that the war be continued until the South was completely prostrated, or subjugated to an unconditional surrender. The Reconstruction Party or "Copperheads", as they were called, severely criticized the Lincoln administration stating that the Republicans had passed laws giving the President control over the sword and purse of the nation; slavery was annulled and private property confiscated by a mere word; hundreds of persons were thrown in prison through military arrest and without due process of law; and that the war was a "Republican War". Although the name "copperhead" was given to all Democrats during the war, it really applied only to the extreme members of the party who openly advocated aiding the South and defending state's rights. The main group of the Democrats held their convention at Chicago in August and nominated General McClellan. Their platform demanded the cessation of bloodshed and the calling of a convention to restore peace "on the basis of the Federal union of the states".[45]

McClellan was a strong candidate, and was popular with the soldiers

43. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.
44. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.
45. Bassett: A Short History of the United States.

and the masses alike. The unionist leaders feared the result of a political campaign based on the issue which the Democrats had raised. The North was as tired of the war as was the South. At the time of these nominations, Grant had just been halted by Lee at Cold Harbor in a costly sacrifice of life, and Richmond was still in Confederate hands. At the same time, Sherman, after several months of fierce fighting and a bloody set-back at Kennesaw Mountain, was still outside of Atlanta. The North had not won a major battle in more than a year. Many prominent men proclaimed that Lincoln ought to withdraw, or be set aside for a stronger candidate, and the President, himself, thought that if defeated, he would cooperate with his successor to "save the union". The apprehension of the Republican Party was relieved, however, on September 3rd, with the news of the fall of Atlanta. Sherman's entry into this stronghold, deep in the heart of the Confederacy, was all the proof that the Republicans needed to show that the war was not a failure; at the same time, it practically nullified the Democratic platform upon which McClellan was running. Lincoln's reelection was now assured, and the South knew that it could expect no compromise.

Women In Action

One of the very few encounters which Macon has had with mobs took place during the latter part of 1864 when the Confederacy began to totter. This incident is described by the Macon Telegraph, August, 1886, as follows: "The occasion was perhaps one of the most remarkable that ever took place this side of the Atlantic being one that was planned by and participated in by women alone.

"At the time, every available man who could carry a musket was in the service of the Confederacy, and about the only ones encountered on Macon streets were either grey-haired, blind, or crippled. An able-bodied man was a very rare sight because if he ran the gauntlet of the conscription officers, public opinion would give him no rest.

"Everything in the way of the necessities of life was high in price, and they do say that some merchants ran the figures far beyond what they should have done. Macon sheeting sold at $5.00 a yard, and a family with a bolt of it was considered rich. Meal was from $3.00 to $5.00 per bushel, and often scarce at that. It not only served for bread but the universal coffee was parched meal or peas. There were no luxuries such as are termed luxuries now. Everything was a necessity, and at no time in the history of this country were the rich and the poor so near on a level. A batch of money would buy but little, and it was often the case that a rich man's family sat down to a five hundred dollar dinner that was but little better than that which was laid down upon a poor widow's table.

"It was when the staple articles of food, meal, etc., ran up to eight and nine dollars a bushel, and sheeting could be had only for fabulous amounts that the town was one day made wild with excitement. The day was bitter cold, and a small load of wood such as fifty cents will buy now, was worth twenty dollars. About nine o'clock in the morning, women could be seen gathering in groups on the streets, all shivering and blue with cold. Some wore blankets around them; some wore ragged shawls; and there were some who wore men's coats. They were the wives and widows of soldiers, and there were more widows than wives at that time. Whether by accident or whether it was planned, the groups ran together like particles of quicksilver, and soon were marching up to the business portion of the city, armed with woman's only weapon,—her tongue. As they marched along, some of them picked up brooms, and the leader carried a fishing pole with a handkerchief on the end of it.

"The small boys were almost as numerous and were playing on the streets as they followed the procession of Amazons. Once in town, the mob marched in every store, and administered such tongue-lashings to proprietors and clerks that they were glad enough to give liberally of such articles as the women wanted. At the grocery store, they secured meat and meal, some little flour, chickory for coffee, etc. In the dry goods stores, the securing of such rare things as hair pins, thread, and a piece of ribbon set the crowd of poor souls nearly wild with delight. They filled their pockets with the small articles, and used their aprons to carry off the loot. Many storekeepers, hearing of the work, hastily shut up their stores, and fled to their homes. The next morning, the news of the mob and its success spread like wild fire over the city. Every woman who had no means of support except rations doled out by the city and county authorities was up, and dressed early, awaiting the signal for the start. Those who had engaged in the mob on the day before were ready and eager to renew their onslaught on the "extortioners", as the merchants were called among the poorer classes, and when the procession began forming, it was plain to see that it would number into the hundreds.

"The merchants were advised of the coming of the mob and determined on resistance. At that time, the police department of the city amounted to a marshal and two deputies. They were ordered to hold the mob back at all hazards. By 9:00 o'clock, the procession filed into Cherry Street. The women were orderly, and marched with quick step without a word. There were many brooms held like guns, but there were no other weapons. They were the wives of men who were fighting for their country, and the widows of those who had died on the battlefield. They wanted more bread than was given them, and bread they must have. A more determined mob never made a break. They were met at the door of every store by clerk or proprietor, but

the resistance did not amount to much. Forcing their way in, they fell to and helped themselves, while men looked on aghast at the work. Mayor Collins appealed to them to desist, and threatened to have every one of them arrested, but they paid no attention to him. The marshals were in a dilemma. They couldn't fire on the women or strike them with their clubs. They could only push back and try to reason. With such a mob, an attempt to reason with them was a waste of words. Finally, the Mayor and county authorities got together and decided to buy up a lot of meal and sheeting, and distribute it among the crowd. The proposition was made and accepted, and when each woman received her allowance, the mob dispersed. A few months later, the war was over."

Amusements During the War

Although the South went through many privations during the war such as its people having to make their shoes and hats out of cloth, substituting chicory and parched meal for coffee, and being deprived of most every kind of luxury,—at no time was it wanting in theatrical amusements. Richmond was the dramatic headquarters, where the various stock companies were formed and sent South, and many of the brightest stars of the American stage remained on this side of the Mason and Dixon line.

Concerning theatricals in Macon during the war, the Macon Daily Telegraph, December, 1885, states:

"At no time during the five years of the struggle was Macon without an attraction of some kind, and, strange to say, the theatre was much more liberally patronized, notwithstanding the fact that the people were poorer than now. A slim house was the result of inclement weather, and not because of any lack of merit on the part of the attraction. This may seem singular inasmuch as the male population was at the front battling for their country; but it is somewhat accounted for in the fact that Macon being a central point, there were more or less soldiers on sick leave and in the hospitals; and again, the boys growing up took the place of their fathers in acting as escorts, and protectors of their mothers and sisters. Confederate money was plentiful, and wives and daughters were glad enough for any diversion from the horrors of war.

"In the early part of the war, the Crisp family held our board. There are no doubt many living who will remember the genial W. H. Crisp and 'our Jessie' as she was called in 'Black Eyed Susan'. I can see Mr. Crisp now in his blue sailor suit give a hitch to his trousers and say 'shiver my timbers'. But the Crisp family were never here longer than a week or so at the time. They worked the circuit which included Charleston, Savannah, Augusta, Atlanta, and Montgomery.

Under the name of Dalton and Davis, Edmund B. Dalton and John A. Davis, held a stock company together here nearly all of the time. As a matter of course, to appear night after night for months at a time in a city of less than ten thousand inhabitants, a company must have an extensive repertoire. This, Dalton and Davis had. One week they presented Don Caesar de Bazan; another week, "La Tour de Nesle", and so on, with "The Corsican Brothers", the "Iron Chest", "Lady of the Lake", "Lady of Lyons" "Igomar, the Barbarian", 'Pizarro", and so forth. It was seldom that we were given "Shakespeare". Sometimes, Richard III was essayed, but Romeo rarely ever made love to Juliet, although those were the days when Ella Wren and Eloise Bridges were fresh and fair on the stage.

Dalton and Davis Company was in all respects a good one. Dalton was possessed of a good figure, piercing grey eyes, and a voice both strong and musical. Davis was much older, and not so good an actor, but there were no better managers in the southern circuit. He knew when a piece had its run, and he knew how to up the size of his audiences. The male members of the company were mostly printers, and were employed by J. W. Burke and Company during the day.

There were just as many stage-struck people in those days as now, but it was not often that they were given a chance to rise or fall before the footlights. I remember a young man named Gray. He was a painter. He had a fine physique, a handsome face, and was quite popular with the boys about town because of his vocal ability. He was badly stage-struck, and applied to Dalton and Davis for a position. They saw at once that he would never make an actor, but they knew a crowded house meant ducats. Gray was put through a course of training, and John L. Sullivan never warmed up to his work of preparation for a mill with more zeal and interest than did Gray for his appearance in "Macbeth". The house was crowded to suffocation. Ralston Hall never had held so many people. Gray was atremble with fear, and Dalton and Davis were happy. Finally, the curtain went up and Gray caught on to his cue. There was a wild yell of greeting, which gave Gray time to recover from his fright. When he began to "chew soap and foam at the mouth", the audience arose as one man, and never did Forest or Booth receive such an ovation. For the time being, Gray was the finest actor that ever trod the boards, and he felt it. But his star went down the next night. A squad of substitutes from a recruiting camp in the suburbs came to town and attended the theater. They knew nothing of Gray, and when he had spoken a half dozen lines, they saw at once that he was no actor, and let loose such a fusilade of hisses that poor Gray ran to the dressing room, doffed his toga, and was soon out in the street, swearing that he would never again set foot on the stage.

"I remember on one occasion, when Richard III was on the bills, Davis was cast for Richmond, but as night grew on he became more and more indisposed. The chances were fine for a crowded house, and a Richmond must be had at any cost. While Dalton was fussing and fretting and fuming, George W. Simpson, who was the organizer of the first original Georgia minstrels, and who was then a compositor on Harry Flash's Telegraph and Confederate, approached him and told him that the finest Richmond on the stage was then at work at Burke's printing office, and, in case Davis did not turn up, his part could be supplied. Dalton was appeased, and instructed Simpson to get his man in readiness.

"George W. Simpson was much more of a genius than the George W. Simpson immortalized by White in the Chicago Tribune. He was more than a genius; he was a wag. When the orchestra was playing the overture that night, Simpson rushed behind the scenes with a handsomely-formed man, whose face was close shaven and who wore a look of seriousness. Dalton seized him and taking him to the dressing room, spread out Richmond's costume before him. Simpson's man was soon arrayed and soon the curtain was rung up. Dalton was in good spirits. The play went on nicely until the sixth act, when Richmond meets Richard on Bosworth Field. In vain did Richard prompt Richmond to speak his lines, but Richmond was silent, though his movements elicited applause. In the fencing scene, he proved himself a master of the foils, and Richard died full of admiration for the new man's skill. Then through the rest of the act, Richmond was every inch a king, — so far as looks went, — but not a word escaped his lips. The audience had an idea that something had gone wrong, and Dalton was mystified. When the curtain went down, it leaked out that the new Richmond was a deaf and dumb printer, who was well up in Shakespeare. But the audience never knew that, for the first time in the history of the stage, the part of Richmond was played by a man who never spoke a word in his life.

"At that time, John Templeton, Alice, and Isabel Vane, were in their prime. They paid Macon occasional visits. Fay Templeton was born after the war and was on the stage before she could lisp her father's name. Her first appearance in Macon was at Concert Hall, long since abandoned.

"Among the actors who had exemptions, and who remained in Macon until the war closed, were E. W. Blance, now in railroad business in Florida; Sam Hubbard, who sang Irish songs, now old and decrepit, in Cincinnati; Frank Dusenberry, a fancy dancer; William Warren, comedian, and Virginia Kemble, afterwards on the Variety stage. Henry McCarthy, with his decellete shirt collar and ample black cravat, visited us frequently in his character impersonations. His wife,

was Lottie Estelle. He was the composer of 'Bonnie Blue Flag'. Theodore Hamilton, a Nashville printer, was another star, whose dramatic talent was developed during the war. When Booth opened his beautiful theater in New York in 1869, Hamilton played the King to Booth's Hamlet."

After the war, Macon was a kind of theatrical centre. It was here that the first slave troupe of minstrels was organized. It was here also that a number of discharged Federal soldiers organized Moss and Warren's combination opera troupe, which stranded in Griffin after a long barn-storming trip.

The Burning of Atlanta

After entering Atlanta, Sherman determined that he would destroy all stores, factories, and public buildings, and preparatory to this move, he ordered all of the civilian population to evacuate the city. Besides the normal inhabitants of the city, Atlanta was crowded with Confederate families and refugees who had lost their homes in other battle areas. There were also many sick and wounded Confederate soldiers in the city. A bitter correspondence took place between Hood and Sherman, and the Confederate General branded Sherman's purposes as barbarous and inhuman. The municipal authorities of Atlanta also protested loudly against such action, presenting all of the suffering that would befall the women and children, the decrepit, and the sick. Sherman refused to revoke his order, however, and it was at this time that he made the statement that war is terrible; that war is cruel; and that you cannot refine it. He did not say "War is hell", as he was later forced reluctantly to admit after a fruitless search had been made of his war orders and correspondence.[46]

All of the Federal sick and wounded, together with large quartermaster and ordnance stores, which had accumulated in Atlanta, were removed to Chattanooga, and on November 15th, the torch was applied to the city. The great fire which followed was described by one of his men as follows: "Our commissaries have been busily engaged all day in loading rations, and our quartermasters in issuing clothing and shoes to the troops. Up to about 3:00 P.M., this issuing was carried on with something like a show of regularity, but about that time, fires began to break out in various portions of the city, and it soon became evident that these fires were but the beginning of a general conflagration which would sweep over the entire city and blot it out of existence. Quartermasters and commissaries ceased trying to issue clothing or load rations. They told the soldiers to go in and take what they wanted before it burned up. The soldiers found many barrels of whisky, and, of course, they drank of it until they were drunk. Then, new fires began to spring up. All sorts of discordant noises rent the

46. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

air. Drunken soldiers on foot and on horseback raced up and down the streets while the buildings on either side were solid sheets of flame. They gathered in crowds before the finest structures, and sang "Rally Around the Flag", while the flames enwrapped these costly edifices. They shouted and danced and sang again while pillar, roof, and dome sank into one common ruin. The night, for miles around, was bright as mid-day. The city of Atlanta was one mass of flame, and the morrow must find it a mass of ruins. Well, the soldiers fought for it, and the soldiers won it. Now, let the soldiers enjoy it. And, so I suppose General Sherman thinks, for he is somewhere nearby now, looking on at all this, and saying not a word to prevent it. All the pictures and verbal descriptions of hell that I have ever seen never gave me half so vivid an idea of it, as did this flame-wrapped city tonight. Gate City of the South, — farewell!"

After the destruction of Atlanta, General Hood attempted to cut Sherman's line of communications, and struck at Allatoona, forty-five miles north of Atlanta, but the Federals held. Several other attempts were made to cut Sherman's supply lines but without success. In the meantime, Sherman had decided upon the bold plan of marching to the sea through the heart of the Confederacy, with the idea of bringing terror and devastation to the people, and bringing the war to an end. At first, he considered marching to Mobile, but soon he decided upon Savannah. Before Hood withdrew into Tennessee, Sherman sent the following telegram to General Grant: "It will be a physical impossibility to protect the roads now that Hood, Forrest, Wheeler, and the whole batch of devils are turned loose without home or habitation. I propose that we break up the road from Chattanooga forward, and that we strike out with our wagons for Milledgeville, Millen, and Savannah. Until we can depopulate Georgia, it is useless for us to occupy it. But the utter destruction of its houses, roads, and people will cripple their military resources. By attempting to hold the roads, we will lose one thousand men each month, and will gain no result. I can make this march, and can make Georgia howl!"[47]

Sherman's March Through Georgia

Sherman finally obtained Grant's permission, although it was reluctantly given, to put his plan into operation ,and on November 15th, having completed the destruction of Atlanta, he set out with 60,000 picked troops, of whom 5,000 were cavalry whose sole purpose was foraging. His army was divided into two main columns, — one going through Decatur, Covington, Eatonton, and Milledgeville, — to Sandersville, where they would make contact with the other, which would proceed by Jonesboro and Gordon, with a threat at Macon. Thus, his army marched along parallel routes, covering a zone sixty miles wide.

47. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

In reports of his movements, he frankly said: "I estimate that the damage done to the state of Georgia and its military resources at $100,000,000, at least $20,000,000 of which has inured to our advantage, and the remainder is simply waste and destruction". The misery thus inflicted upon the non-combatants was as great as it was unnecessary, and consternation gripped the civilian population as news of his ravaging march moved ahead of him.

Georgia families buried their silverware, jewelry, and other valuables in the ground, and drove their cattle and livestock into the hiding places of the woods and swamps. But even this did little to deter the complete devastation inflicted by Sherman's hungry troops and "bummers" who plundered and destroyed almost without stint.[48]

By cutting loose from his communications and supply lines and moving into the very heart of the enemy's territory, Sherman's actions appealed to the imagination of the North. But in fact, he had little or no opposition since General Hood had marched into Tennessee with the hope of drawing Sherman there, and all of the regular Georgia forces were fighting with the Confederacy on other fronts at the time of his march.

Two days after Sherman left Atlanta, Governor Brown informed his legislature, then in session at Milledgeville, that Sherman had burned Atlanta and was on his way to the state capital. He requested quick legislation authorizing him to call out the entire population of Georgia to fight the invaders. The legislators permitted his request and he adjourned the legislature "to the front . . . to meet again if we should live . . . at such place as the Governor may designate". The official records of the state were first removed to the insane asylum, and later to a safer place in southwest Georgia. Brown hurried to the penitentiary where he delivered a stirring and patriotic speech to the convicts, and induced them to join the militia and aid in the evacuation of the capitol.

During Sherman's "march to the sea", another attack was made upon Macon. Citizens of this city were apprehensive that Macon would receive the same kind of treatment from Sherman, which had befallen Atlanta. The city was densely crowded with refugees from other places, homeless families who had suffered from the devastation of Sherman's army, and many sick and wounded from the battlefields of North Georgia. Apparently Sherman was of the belief that Hood, Forrest, Wheeler, and Beauregard had united, and consequently, he would not risk the time to destroy Macon in his eagerness to reach the sea and the protection of the Federal fleet, which awaited him there. However, he did make a feint upon the city by ordering General Kirkpatrick's cavalry, supported by Ostenhau's corps, to approach from

48. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

the East. They made their appearance three miles from the city on the 20th and 21st, where they were met by the state militia and local forces, and after scattered firing on both sides, retired to Griswoldville. On the 22nd, a terrific and hotly contested battle occurred which resulted in much bloodshed between the Georgia militia, under the command of General G. W. Smith, and a Federal brigade, commanded by General Walcutt. The Union forces retired two miles from Griswoldville, where they entrenched themselves and waited for the Confederates. They were armed with the latest Spencer repeating rifles. The Confederates advanced within fifty yards of the entrenchments under a terrific fire, which they stood with great courage. So rapid was the fire of the enemy, that 614 of them were killed and wounded. The loss to the Federals was not known, though General Walcutt was severely wounded. The weather was extremely cold, and many of the wounded froze to death on the battlefield.[49]

In his "Memoirs", describing "The March to the Sea", Sherman states as follows: "About seven o'clock, A.M., on November 16th, we rode out of Atlanta on the Decatur Road, filled by the marching troops and wagons of the Fourteenth Corps, and reaching the hill just outside of the rebel works, we naturally paused to look back upon the scenes of our past battles. We stood upon the very ground whereon was fought the bloody battle of July 22nd, and could see the copse of wood where McPherson fell. Behind us, lay Atlanta, smouldering and in ruins, the black smoke rising high in the air, and hanging like a pall over the ruined city. Away off in the distance on the McDonough Road, was the rear of Howard's column, their gun barrels glistening in the sun, the white-topped wagons stretching away to the South, and right before us, the Fourteenth Corps, marching steadily and rapidly, with a cheery look and swinging pace, that made light of the thousand miles that lay between us and Richmond. Some band, by accident, struck up the anthem of "John Brown's Soul Goes Marching On", the men caught up the strain, and never before or since have I heard the chorus of "Glory, Glory, Hallelujah" done with more spirit or in better harmony of time and place."

His "Memoirs" then recalled a number of humorous incidents during the march, his entrance into Covington, the destruction of railroads, and the burning of bridges. He continues: "We found an abundance of molasses, meal, bacon, and sweet potatoes. We took a good many cows and oxen, and a large number of mules. In all these, the country was quite rich, — never before having been invaded by a hostile army. The recent crop had been excellent, and had been just gathered and laid in for the winter. As a rule, we destroyed none but kept our wagons full and fed our teams bountifully. The skill and success of the men in collecting forage was one of the features of the

49. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

march. Each brigade commander had authority to detail a company of foragers, usually about fifty men, with one or two commissioned officers, selected for their boldness and enterprise. This party would be dispatched before daylight with a knowledge of the intended day's march and camp; would proceed on foot five or six miles from the route traveled by their brigade and then visit every farm and plantation within range. They would usually procure a wagon or family carriage, load it with bacon, corn meal, turkeys, ducks, chickens, and everything that could be used as food or forage, and then would regain the road usually in advance of their train. When this came up, they would deliver to the brigade commissary the supplies thus gathered by the way. Often would I pass these foraging parties at the roadside, waiting for their wagons to come up, and was amused at their strange collection,—mules, horses, even cattle, packed with old saddles, and loaded with hams, bacon, bags of corn meal, and poultry of every character and description. Although this foraging was attended with great danger and hard work, there seemed to be a charm about it that attracted the soldiers, and it was a privilege to be detailed on such a party. Daily they returned mounted on all sorts of beasts which were at once taken from them and appropriated to the general use. But the next day, they would start out on foot again only to repeat the experiences of the day before. No doubt, many acts of pillage, robbery, and violence were committed by these parties of foragers, usually called "bummers", for I have heard since of jewelry taken from women, and the plunder of articles that never reached the commissary, but these acts were exceptional and incidental."

Dolly Sumner Lunt, who was living on a plantation near Covington, which was visited by remnants of Sherman's army, entered her experiences in a diary which was later published under the title of "A Woman's Wartime Journal". Several of the extracts from her journal which deal with the methods used by Sherman are as follows:

"November 16, 1864—On our way home, we met Brother Evans accompanied by John Hinton who inquired if we had heard that the Yankees were coming. He said that a large force was at Stockbridge, that the Home Guard was called out, and that it was reported that the Yankees were on their way to Savannah. We rode home chatting about it and finally settled it in our minds that it could not be so. Probably just a foraging party.

"November 17, 1864—Have been uneasy all day. At night, some of the neighbors who had been to town, called. They said it was a large force moving very slowly. What shall I do? Where go?

"November 18, 1864—Slept very little last night. Went out doors several times and could see large fires like burning buildings. Am I not in the hands of a merciful God, who has promised to take care of

the widow and orphan? Sent off two of my mules tonight. Mr. Ward and Frank (a slave) took them away and hid them. In the morning took a barrel of salt, which had cost me two hundred dollars, into one of the black women's gardens, put a paper over it, and then on the top of that leached ashes. Fixed it on a board as a leach tub, daubing it with ashes (the old fashioned way of making lye for soap). Had some few pieces of meat taken away from my smokehouse carried to the Old Place (a distant part of the plantation) and hidden under some fodder. Bade them hide the wagon and gear, and then go on plowing. Went to packing up mine and Sadai's (my child) clothes. I fear that we shall be homeless. The boys came back and wished to hide their mules. They say that the Yankees camped at Mr. Gibson's last night and are taking all the stock in the county. Seeing them so eager, I told them to do as they pleased. They took them off, and Elbert (the black coachman) took his forty fattening hogs to the old Place Swamp and turned them in. We have done nothing all day—that is, my people have not. I made a pair of pants for Jack (a slave). Sent Nute (a slave) up to Mrs. Perry's on an errand. On his way back, he said, two Yankees met him and begged him to go with them. They asked if we had any livestock, and came up the road as far as Mrs. Laura Perry's. I sat for an hour expecting them but they must have turned back. Oh, how I trust I am safe. Mr. Ward is very much alarmed.

"November 19, 1864—Slept in my clothes last night, as I heard that the Yankees went to neighbor Montgomery's on Thursday night at one o'clock, searched his house, drank his wine, and took all of his money and valuables. As we were not disturbed, I walked after breakfast with Sadai, up to Mr. Joe Perry's, my nearest neighbor, where the Yankees were yesterday. Saw Mrs. Perry in the road, surrounded by her children, seeming to be looking for someone. She said she was looking for her husband, that old Mrs. Perry had just sent her word that the Yankees went to James Perry's the night before, plundered his house, and drove off all his stock, and that she must drive hers into the old fields. Before we were done talking, up came Joe and Jim Perry from their hiding place. Jim was very much excited. Happening to turn and look behind, as we stood there, I saw some bluecoats coming down the hill. Jim immediately raised his gun, swearing he would kill them anyhow. 'No, don't!', said I; and ran home as fast as I could, with Sadai. I could hear them cry, 'halt, halt', and their guns went off in quick succession. Oh God, the time of trial has come! A man passed on his way to Covington. I halloed to him, asking him if he did not know the Yankees were coming. 'No—are they?', he asked. 'Yes', said I, 'They are not three hundred yards from here'. 'Sure enough', said he. 'Well, I'll not go. I don't want them to get my horse'. And although within hearing of their guns, he would stop and look for them. Blissful ignorance! Not knowing, not hearing,—

he has not suffered the suspense, the fear, that I have for the past forty-eight hours. I walked to the gate. There they came, filing up.

"I hastened back to my frightened servants, and told them that they had better hide, and then went back to the gate to claim protection and a guard. But like demons, they rushed in. My yards are full. To my smokehouse, my dairy, pantry, kitchen, and cellar,—like famished wolves they come, breaking locks and whatever is in their way. The thousand pounds of meat in my smokehouse is gone in a twinkling, my flour, my meat, lard, butter, eggs, pickles of various kinds, both in vinegar and brine, wine, jars and jugs, are all gone. My eighteen fat turkeys, my hens, chickens, fowls, my young pigs, are shot down in the yard, and hunted as if they were rebels themselves. Utterly powerless, I ran out and appealed to guard. 'I cannot help you, madam; it is orders', he said. As I stood there, from my lot I saw driven, first, old Dutch, my dear old buggy horse, who has carried my beloved husband so many miles, and who would so quietly wait at the block for him to mount and dismount, and who at last drew him to his grave; then came old Mary, my brood mare, who for years had been too old and stiff for work, with her three-year-old colt, my two-year-old mule, and her last little baby colt. There they go! There go my mules, my sheep, and, worse than all, my boys (slaves). Alas, little did I think while trying to save my house from plunder and fire that they were forcing my boys from home at the point of the bayonet. One, Newton, jumped into bed in his cabin, and declared himself sick. Another crawled under the floor,—a lame boy, he was,—but they pulled him out, placed him on a horse, and drove him off. Mid, poor Mid! The last I saw of him, a man had him going around the garden, looking, as I thought for my sheep, as he was my shepherd. Jack came crying to me, the big tears coursing down his cheeks, saying they were making him go. I said: 'Stay in my room'. But a man followed him, cursing, and threatening to shoot him if he did not go; so poor Jack had to yield. James Arnold, in trying to escape from a back window, was captured and marched off. Henry, too, was taken; I know not how or when, but probably when he and Bob went after the mules. I had not believed they would force from their homes, the poor, doomed negroes, but such was the case, cursing them and saying that 'Jeff Davis wanted to put them in his army but they should not fight for him, but for the Union.' No, indeed they are not friends to the slave. Sherman, himself, and a greater portion of his army passed my house that day. All day were they passing, not only in front, but from behind; they tore down my garden palings; made a road through my back yard, driving their stock and riding through, tearing down my fences and desolating my home."

Sherman camped within eight miles of Milledgeville on the 22nd, and was well pleased with the success of his march and the carrying

out of his soldiers of his order to "forage" liberally. He relates this unexpected incident which occurred at his camp:

"The afternoon was unusually raw and cold. My orderly was at hand with his invariable saddlebags, which contained a change of underclothing, my maps, a flash of whisky, and a bunch of cigars. Taking a drink and lighting a cigar, I walked to a row of negro huts close by, entered one, and found a soldier or two warming themselves by a wood fire. I was talking to an old negro woman when someone came and explained to me that if I would come further down the road, I could find a better place. So I started on foot and found on the main road, a good double-hewed log house. I sent back orders to bring our horses and saddles up to this house, and orders to conduct our headquarters' wagons to the same place. In looking around the room, I saw a small box, like a candle-box, marked 'Howell Cob', and, upon inquiring of a negro, found that we were at the plantation of General Howell Cobb, of Georgia, one of the leading rebels of the South, then a General in the Southern army, and, who had been Secretary of the United States Treasury during Buchanan's administration. Of course, we confiscated all of his property, and found it rich in corn, beans, peanuts, and sorghum molasses. Extensive fields were all around the house. I sent word back to General Davis to explain whose plantation it was, and instructed him to spare nothing. That night, huge bonfires consumed the fence rails, kept the soldiers warm, and the teamsters and men, as well as the slaves, carried off an immense quantity of corn, and provisions of all sorts.

"I reached Milledgeville on the 23rd, with the left wing, and was in full communication with the right wing, at Gordon. The people of Milledgeville remained at home, except Governor Brown, the state officers, and the members of the legislature, who had ignominiously fled, in the utmost disorder and confusion; standing not on the order of their going, but going at once; some by rail, some by carriage, and many on foot. Some of the citizens who remained behind described this flight of the 'brave and patriotic' Governor Brown. He had occupied a public building known as the 'Governor's Mansion', and had hastily stripped it of carpets, curtains, and furniture of all sorts, which were removed to a train of freight cars, which carried away these things,—even the cabbages and vegetables from his kitchen and cellar, —leaving behind muskets, ammunition, and the public archives. The only troops left to defend the Capitol were a small battalion of cadets from the Military College under General Harry Wayne, who retreated across the Oconee."

Sherman remained in Milledgeville only a day. He burned the arsenal, the penitentiary, and several other public buildings, but spared the city, as a whole. His soldiers mimicked the state legislature and desecrated the capitol by scattering public documents, records, and

files in all directions. They even held a mock session of the legislature in the Hall of Representatives, and repealed the ordinance of secession in a riotous demonstration.[50] On the 24th, his forces again set out on their spree of destruction.

In his "Memoirs", Sherman continues: "I met two of my corps, which had inflicted considerable damage upon the railroad to Savannah, together with the Twentieth Corps at Sandersville. There we met some rebel cavalry deployed before the town, which were driven in and through it by our skirmishers. I myself saw the rebel cavalry apply fire to stacks of fodder standing in the fields in Sandersville, and I gave orders to burn some unoccupied dwellings close by. On entering the town, I told certain citizens, who would be sure to spread the report, that if the enemy attempted to carry out their threat to burn their food, corn, or fodder, in our route, that I would most undoubtedly execute to the letter the general orders of devastation made at the outset of my campaign. At Sandersville, I halted the left wing until I heard that the right wing was abreast of us on the railroad. During the evening, a negro was brought to me who had that day been to the station, Tennille, about six miles south of the town. I inquired of him if there were any Yankees there, and he answered 'yes'. He described in his own way what he had seen: 'First, there come along some cavalrymen, and they burned the depot; then come along some infantrymen, and they tore up the tracks and burned it, and just before he left they had 'sot fire to the well'."

Upon reaching Ossabaw Sound on December 13th and concluding his march to the sea, Sherman reported to the Secretary of War at Washington: "The army is in splendid order, and equal to anything. The weather has been fine, and supplies were abundant. Our march was most agreeable, and were not at all molested by guerrillas. We have not lost a wagon on the trip, but have gathered a large supply of negroes, mules, horses, etc., and our teams are in far better condition than when we started. My first duty will be to clear the army of surplus negroes, mules, and horses. We have utterly destroyed over 200 miles of rails, and consumed stores and provisions that were essential to Lee's and Hood's armies".

Northern newspapers, Congress, officers of the Federal government, and the orators and politicians throughout the northern section were loud in their praise of Sherman's accomplishment. However, General Sherman, himself, makes no boast of it as being a remarkable military achievement, and admits that he marched unobstructed and without opposition. A Northern correspondent who traveled with the army, relates its prowess in pillage and violence as follows:

"Such little freaks as taking the last chicken, the last pound of meal, the last bit of bacon, and the only remaining scraggy cow from a poor

50. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

woman and her flock of children, black or white, not considered, came under the order of legitimate business. Even crockery, bed covering, or clothes are fair spoils. As for plate or jewelry or watches,—these were things rebels had no use for. Men with pockets plethoric with silver and gold coin; soldiers sinking under the weight of plate and fine bedding materials; lean mules and horses with the richest trappings of Brussels carpets, and hangings of fine chennille; negro wenches, particularly good looking ones, decked in satin and silks, and sporting diamond ornaments; officers with sparkling rings that would set Tiffany in raptures, gave color to the stories of hanging up or flushing an 'old cuss' to make him shell out. A planter's house was overrun in a jiffy; boxes, drawers, and escritoires were ransacked with a laudable zeal and emptied of their contents. If they were ample, the depredators were satisfied and went off in peace, if not, everything was torn and destroyed, and most likely the owner was tickled with sharp bayonets into a confession where he had his treasures hid. If he escaped and was hiding in a thicket, this was prima facie evidence that he was a skulking rebel, and most likely some ruffian, in his zeal to get rid of such vipers, gave him a dose of lead, which cured him of his 'secesh' tendencies. Sorghum barrels were knocked open, and beehives rifled, while their angry swarms rushed frantically about. Indeed, I have seen a soldier knock a planter down because a bee stung him. Should the house be deserted, the furniture is smashed in pieces; music is pounded out of $400.00 pianos with the ends of muskets; mirrors were wonderfully multiplied; and rich cushions and carpets carried off to adorn teams and war steeds. After all was cleared out, most likely some set of stragglers wanted to enjoy a good fire and set the house, debris of furniture, and all the surroundings in a blaze. This is the way Sherman's army lived in the country".[51]

The effect of Sherman's "howl" through Georgia was that it made the people more resolute than ever, and more bitter than ever toward the forces and leaders which permitted such conduct. After this demonstration by Sherman, the people of Georgia certainly did not lean toward the policy of reconstruction which was being advocated by some Southern leaders at that time, and it is just as well that the Hampton Roads Conference between Stephens, Campbell, and Hunter, representing the South, and Lincoln and Seward, representing the North, did not materialize. At this conference, Lincoln and Seward were unwilling to make a single concession, and being informed of the reduction in numbers of the Southern armies and of the devastation of huge military and other supplies by Sherman, their utterance was nothing short of "unconditional surrender" subject to the clemency of the United States Executive. The Confederate government refused to

51. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

make any further overtures, and after making General Robert E. Lee, commander-in-chief of all military operations, and hearing reports that the Treasury was without funds and that other departments of government were without means of functioning properly, they adjourned.

In the meantime, Macon had become the temporary Capital of Georgia, the seat of government having been set up in this city after the fall of Milledgeville. About the middle of February, 1865, Governor Brown called a special session of the legislature to meet here. This group convened at the City Hall and heard Governor Brown deliver a message which took up two pages of the Macon Telegraph. In his message, he boldly asked that a state convention be held which would propose an amendment taking away the powers of the President of the Confederacy, and the secession of Georgia from the Confederacy.

L. Q. C. Lamar and B. H. Hill came to Macon from Richmond to address the citizens in defense of President Davis' administration. They opposed the calling of any convention as being unwise and impractical, and denounced the reconstruction plans of Governor Brown. General Howell Cobb also spoke to the people of Macon at Ralston Hall, making a bold and earnest defense of President Davis, and praising the heroism and sacrifices of the soldiers of the Confederacy. He saw no good which might arise from a state convention. The legislature rejected the adoption of the Governor's recommendation, and adjourned in March.[52]

On April 9th, General Lee surrendered the Virginia armies, Richmond having previously been evacuated by the President and his cabinet, who removed to Greensboro, North Carolina. On April 18th, an armistice of forty-eight hours was made between Generals Johnston and Sherman, and peace terms proposed, subject to the ratification of the two governments. General Davis and members of his cabinet had removed to Charlotte, North Carolina, and reluctantly approved the terms. On the 24th, General Johnston received a communication from Sherman stating that the authorities in Washington had disapproved the terms of peace agreed to between them. However, after another interview between the two, the terms for a cessation of hostilities and the disbandment of armies was finally concluded.

The Surrender of Macon

In the meantime, Macon had at last succumbed to the pressure of the Federal forces, the city having surrendered to General Wilson, with his Seventeenth Division, on April 20th. The following account of the occupation of the city by Federal forces was published in the Telegraph and Messenger, 1875:

"General Wilson had the best equipped cavalry corps that had ever

52. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

been in the United States service. It numbered, according to his own report, when he reached Macon, 13,500 strong, with splendid trains of provision, wagons, pontoons, and every appliance necessary for a destructive raid. His horses and mules were the best stock that could be produced in the country. He had marched through the wealthiest counties in Alabama, and appropriated to his service the best animals that the rich planters of that state possessed, and was enabled to move at the rate of fifty miles per day.

"He met General Forrest with a small and exhausted force near Selma, Alabama, and after a desperate fight succeeded in driving back the Confederate heroes. At this time, Wilson's forces amounted to 15,000 troops. At Selma, Wilson met with stubborn resistance by Forrest's command and the citizens of that place. By overpowering numbers, he stormed the city and entered it, and reached Montgomery forty-five miles from Selma, in a twelve hours march.

"There were some small forces of Confederates at Montgomery, who burnt all of the cotton in the city rather than it should be destroyed by the enemy. The cotton was taken out of the warehouses, piled on the river banks, and the torch applied to one hundred thousand bales. On entering that city, Wilson fired the railroad buildings and buildings which had been used for Confederate purposes. He continued his work of destruction on his march to Columbus, which place he reached in two days. Here he was opposed by General Howell Cobb with a small force of Georgia Reserves on the night of April 15th. General Cobb was on the field, commanding in person. His whole force did not amount to 2,500 men. It was so dark during the engagement, that a squad of Federal cavalry rode up to General Cobb's position and had a conversation with him without recognizing him. Our feeble forces were scattered, and as soon as possible were drawn off on a retreat. We chronicle the battle at Columbus as the last one of the war.

"Wilson burned near one hundred thousand bales of cotton at Columbus. He burned three cotton factories, the railroad and other buildings, besides some private property. After resting two days and provisioning his army, and gathering thousands of negroes, he proceeded on his march of devastation to Macon. He divided his army, sending a portion towards West Point and LaGrange, thence via Thomaston to Macon. The plan was for the two columns to meet at Macon, destroy the city, and proceed to Augusta, and thence to join Sherman's army in the Carolinas.

"The impression in Macon was, up to the 19th, that Forrest was in the rear of Wilson, and was driving him forward. They had overestimated Forrest's force and greatly under-rated Wilson's, until General Cobb made a hairbreadth escape and arrived in Macon. Every preparation was made for a resistance here. Every man capable of

standing on his feet was ordered to the entrenchments, and arrangements made to barricade the streets with the many cotton bales in the city. In the event that we were overpowered, precaution had been taken by General Cobb to destroy all of the whisky in the city, so as to prevent the horrors of a drunken army among defenseless women and children. About two thousand, five hundred barrels of corn whisky was destroyed.

"At twelve o'clock, noon, April 20th, a telegram was received by General Cobb from General Beauregard, stating that Johnston and Sherman had agreed upon an armistice, which would close the war, and to halt General Wilson's advance on the spot where this communication could catch him. The telegraph lines had frequently been interrupted between Macon and Augusta, and beyond the latter point for several days, and no information was received about the armistice and the affairs in Virginia until Beauregard's dispatch came to hand. General Cobb and other officers with him now regarded the war as closed. Under flags of truce, officers were dispatched upon every road leading into Macon from the West, bearing the following communication, which General Fry, commanding the Confederate forces at Augusta, had received from General Beauregard, with directions to transmit it to the Federal officers in Georgia:

'United States Military Telegraph,
Raleigh, N. C., April 19, 1865

'To Major-General Gilmore:

I have made an agreement with the Confederate Generals for a suspension of hostilities until certain terms are approved at Washington. These terms embrace the disbandment of all the Confederate armies, and a firm and lasting peace. You will, therefore, cease all further depredations on public or private property, and make dispositions looking to a general peace.

W. T. Sherman, General Commanding.'

"Colonel J. L. Morgan, accompanied by several others, met the Federal advance fourteen miles from Macon, and related the object of his mission. The advanced troops sent him and his party a mile to the rear to communicate with General Wilson, who waved his hat and shouted 'peace' as soon as he heard the news, but refused to halt on the ground. He said he would only stop when he had reached and captured Macon. Colonel Morgan, during the excitement, having a very fleet horse, made his escape, and reached Macon, by extraordinary riding, two hours in advance of the enemy, and related to General Cobb, Wilson's intentions. General Cobb had withdrawn all of his forces from the entrenchments, and they were disbanded. With the exception of a few companies of the reserves, the forces consisted

of citizens, invalids from the various hospitals, and artisans in the various workshops,—the whole not exceeding 2,500 in number.

"The advance of the enemy at Tatnall Square about half past six P.M. without any resistance. General Cobb sent Colonel R. M. Cuyler, under a flag of truce, to General Wilson, with duplicates of dispatches from Generals Sherman and Beauregard, and to inform him that under the rules of war, when an armistice had taken place, he had instructed his men not to fire a gun; and that as he considered the war at an end, he had disbanded his forces. He insisted upon Wilson halting upon the ground where the first communication had reached him through Colonel Morgan. Wilson replied that he would recognize no instructions from Sherman through conference mediums of communication; that he would allow General Cobb five minutes to surrender the city; or he would fire upon it. General Cobb then replied that as he was without the means of resistance, and the enemy were within his entrenchments, he was compelled to surrender, but would do so under protest, and was ready to receive General Wilson and his staff at his office. Colonel White, with several other officers, was sent by Wilson to make the terms of the surrender, and the Commanding General, with his staff, came in about two hours afterwards. It was late that evening when the first squad of Federals came into the city. In coming down Cotton Avenue, near Plum, one or two of the squad fell from their horses for some unknown reason. On the buttress of the City Hall was a lone sentry. He was not expecting the visit of the enemy, and when they rounded Poplar and observed him, one of them made a dash for the sentry, overpowered him, seized his gun, and broke it on the buttress. They rode on down Cotton Avenue with a dash, their scabbards clanking and rattling in unison to the hoof-beats of their horses.

"The women and children were naturally frightened. For four years, the male members of their families had been fighting these Yankee soldiers, and they, in their bitterness and hatred for the enemy, had magnified their brutality and ferocity. They gathered up their children and saw that they were safely housed. Then, with their shawls and blankets, which were the universal apparel at that time, they started out to look for sons and fathers. There was no such feeling of fear on the part of the men and boys. That night crowds of them remained in the business section, and many of them were armed. Generals Cobb and Wilson discussed the propriety, at some length, of the Federals entering the city under the rules of war. Wilson agreed to keep his troops out of the city, except such as were necessary, for a military guard. General Cobb and staff were then paroled; but Wilson took very good care to keep a strict guard around General Cobb's house. Wilson asked what extent of commissary stores were on hand, and

stated that the remainder of his army would reach Macon in three days, when he would require supplies for 15,000 men and 20,000 animals. This was the first information we had ever received of the extent of Wilson's forces. General Cobb replied he did not have more than enough to last him three days. Wilson then telegraphed to General Sherman: 'The city of Macon and its garrison surrendered to my command tonight. Besides many subordinate officers, I have captured Generals Cobb, Smith, Mackall, and Robinson,—four Generals in all, —and a very large amount of government property, etc.'

"General Wilson and staff took possession of the Lanier House as his abode, and, on the following day they occupied the rooms opposite that hotel, which had been the headquarters of General Cobb, for his office. Many of the Federal soldiers entered the city the night of the 20th, and until their removal from Macon, committed many depredations by insulting the ladies, robbing their residences, and pillaging generally. On the night of the 22nd, the soldiers set fire to two blocks on Mulberry Street, and a portion of the buildings on each, comprising valuable property, was destroyed, including the Methodist depository, the printing establishment of J. W. Burke and Company, and jewelry stores. Several other attempts at incendiarism were made on the following day, but the fire was suppressed without serious damage."

Under the title "War Recollections" a special correspondent of The Telegraph and Messenger tells her experiences near Macon after it surrendered to Wilson.[53] Her article follows:

"The writer had a temporary refugee home near Macon at the time General Wilson entered the city. After the fight at Missionary Ridge and the formidable preparations made by the Federal army, it was evident to the citizens of North,—Cherokee,—Georgia that trouble was brewing for them, and all persons who gave the subject serious thought became convinced that the time had come to refugee and seek a shelter from the depredations of the vandal horde then threatening an advance on that part of the state.

"General Johnston made a brave defense, but it was all retrograde, all retreat, masterly, it is true, but backward all the time. When he retreated from Cassville to the Altoona heights, the stampede of the citizens of North Georgia began in earnest.

"Time would fail me to tell you of the trials, losses, dangers, and vexations that beset us until we found a home on an old farm in Jones county, not far distant from Walnut Creek, and within a half dozen miles of your lovely city. I could tell you of Stoneman's raid, of Sherman's advance, of the depredations by Wheeler's cavalry, and of the thousand particular troubles that attended us in this barren refugee home, but I will skip over all preliminaries and say to you that I rode

53. Telegraph and Messenger, April, 1884.

from home to Macon on the morning of the day that the surrender of the city occurred, the 20th of April, 1865. We knew that General Wilson was advancing from Columbus, but the uncertainty and anxiety and dearth of newspapers became intolerable, hence the horseback ride to the city to get the news and something reliable as to the situation. I have often reflected since that such a ride was a most perilous undertaking at that particular time for I was accompanied only by a small negro boy as a groom. But the general anxiety for our country and the soldier boys in the field was so great that individual personal safety was in a great measure overlooked.

"About ten o'clock A.M., I walked into Mr. John Burke's bookstore, which was so soon afterwards laid in ashes. On entering I passed by General Howell Cobb in citizens clothes. The city was not loudly excited, although I am told that the liquor barrels were being vigorously emptied to lessen the horrors of the expected sack of the city, as the vandal horde was surely coming on as rapidly as their horses and the lust for loot could bring them toward us.

"The first acquaintance I encountered on entering was Reverend A. L. P. Green, of Nashville. He was the picture of despair, sitting with his stockinged feet elevated upon a chair before him. To my inquiry, 'Watchman, what of the night?', he replied with a most lugubrious face: 'I am hemmed at last. I have tried every railroad to leave this place, and here I am to be captured.'

"It was not time to say 'I told you so' but I distinctly remembered his reproof to myself when I advocated the propriety of selecting a refugee home in southern Georgia after the fight at Missionary Ridge: 'Why my dear madam. I am astonished at you. There is no danger, none at all. Why should you forsake your home and discourage your neighbors by such a cowardly proceeding?'

"I quietly remarked: 'I have been told, Doctor, that you have removed your cotton to Macon, and I thought it good policy to follow'.

"I judged from his appearance on the day that Wilson was so near that he and the cotton had tried to escape and had failed. The cotton was exceedingly dear to him, so dear that he or his agents applied to the United States government for its value as fast as the proper papers could be made out. With poor success, however, as the needed proof of loyalty could not be successfully established so soon after the war.

"After I had gathered all of the meagre news about the army, for the flag of truce had gone forward to meet General Wilson—I started for home. As I passed the Episcopal Church, I remembered the beautiful Easter service of the Sunday before, with Bishop Elliott to preach one of his most enjoyable discourses, and the whole inside of the crowded building decorated and perfumed by countless wreaths and festoons of flowers. How desolate and sad did everything now appear as I passed

by with the dread of impending desolation and ruin so powerful in my soul.

"The stillness of the grave seemed to have settled over the country and the people. I do not remember meeting a solitary person on my return. As I slacked my steed in Walnut Creek for him to drink, I cast my eye up at the ruins of the bridge, burnt when Stoneman attacked Macon, and wondered where the next torch would be placed. The weary afternoon dragged along; every ear intent, listening for sounds of strife, or watching for the smoke of the enemy's torch. Toward night a few desultory shots were heard, and the rumble of wagons along the main road some three hundred yards distant alone betokened the capitulation of Macon to the Union army.

"After nightfall the passersby increased. Sometime after midnight a knock was heard at the front door, and a strange gentleman in Confederate uniform saluted me as I opened the door. He told me of General Wilson's occupancy and the particulars of the surrender and remarked: 'My dear madam, you should start as soon as it is light enough to see the road. I stopped to beg you not to delay. It is the worst crowd of men this world ever saw. Nobody will be safe, especially in the country'. I thanked him, and blessed him inwardly for this mark of gentlemanly courtesy, and he bade me good-bye.

"Alas, we could go no farther. All next day, we wandered about the house, impressed by dread and overpowering anxiety. Neither food nor sleep could relieve us. Another night passed without disturbance, and we began to hope that we would be spared. I had thrown myself on a lounge after daylight and was sinking into a sweet, restful sleep when I heard my husband's voice—'Take it, but why would you kill me?' Springing to my feet, I found the yard full of Yankee troopers, my husband surrounded by bayonets, and a greasy Dutch soldier in the act of transferring his watch and Confederate scrip into his own pockets.

"The miserable wretches were drunk and boisterous. They plundered the meathouse, they ransacked the dwelling, and started off with every horse and mule we owned, except a colt,—their saddle bows piled up with our stuff and swinging behind in disorder. In the confusion, it occurred to me that there was a chance for strategy. Halting the Captain, who had spent his time in joking with the 'colored ladies' of the place, I asked if he was obliged to have those horses and mules. He drawled: 'No, but I don't see as you rebs ought to have them'. I explained that I needed them very much to plough over the growing crop, or we might starve, and I knew he was much too humane to punish a woman and young children in such a needless way.

"Looked upon by some good spirit, as I believe by the protecting power of Almighty God, he ordered his drunken troopers to pull off

the bridles and give that woman her horses. All complied but one who forced one of the woman servants to mount and follow him.

"Some funny things happened even while we were at their mercy. I had a setting hen in a back room, ready to hatch. A fat, rough, blunder-headed creature filled his hat with the eggs,—and I cried after him 'I wish you joy—of those little chickens—they would hatch in a day or two'. You should have seen his disgorge. He revenged himself by capturing a huge basket of fresh eggs that were hidden in my bedroom,—under my bed.

"Our old shotgun was taken—carried out and placed beside my store of eggs. Just then the raiders discovered two barrels of flour and a barrel of cane syrup, which had been secreted. The house plunderers rushed out to take a hand in the divide,—leaving a half drunken soldier to guard the plunder collected in the dwelling. I watched him long enough to see that he was decidedly maudlin, when I began to lecture him on his inhumanity and thieving. 'Have you no mother or sister?' I asked, 'if so, what could they think of you?' The tears gushed from his already watery eyes. He told me he had a mother and two sisters in Virginia, and after a little more exhortation and advice on my part, he stumbled to his feet and cried out, 'God helping me, I'll never do this thing again. By jingo, hide your aigs'. I'll help you'.

"I had always a mortal fear of a gun. To this day I stop my ears to shut off the report, but I felt that I could not give up our only weapon. There might come an emergency when death by my own hand would be a choice of evils. Inspired by his change of manner and sentiment, I seized the old weapon, loaded as it was in both barrels, placed it in front of me against my person, so as not to excite the rabble that were fairly cavorting in the yard, and with head erect, I clasped the firearm with both hands and marched into the house, followed by my new convert. He turned down a bed, hid the gun, and patted and smoothed the bed clothes just in time. In a moment afterwards, a dozen men were rioting in the room, beating and overturning some trunks to discover false bottoms, if possible.

"One had snatched my husband's hat off his head (he had but one). The maurauder's hands got so full he laid the hat down. I crept behind him silently, captured it, and whisked it up on the top of my wardrobe. My tearful Virginia renegade gave me a smile, and a wink, as much as to say 'hurrah for you'. A grimy Hessian was just about to lay his hands on two handsome tablespoons—heirlooms in the family —when I glided by and transferred them into my dress pocket, amazed at my own audacity; which must have also overpowered the vandal himself. For more than two hours, they plundered and fumed over the place, and then left us worn out with excitement and the dread of even worse things happening to us on the morrow.

"Nobody left their homes to condole with their neighbors, and it was days before we heard how our friends had fared, but our experience was found to be very similar in all respects to their own. It was all rough. General Wilson, if you remember, became disgusted with the extreme thievery of his troops, and played off a clever trick on a noted regiment in his command. Issuing an order to march to Nashville to be disbanded, he halted them a few miles out of the city, disarmed them, and made them disgorge jewelry and other valuables. The loot was collected, and an invitation issued to the suffering citizens to come in and claim their stolen property, but it was remarkable that very few could swear to anything they found in a mass that must have weighed several hundred pounds. The watches were all broken up. I mentioned the fact to one of the soldiers afterward, who came to get vegetables from my garden, and he remarked 'It was a clever dodge on the part of the villain officers to get it in their clutches.' Oh, what a season of apprehension it was! The city soon regained its composure for there was security in numbers, but the country people suffered agonies of fear in the midst of secret danger.

"On the 7th of May,—Sunday evening,—my husband went over to the cattle pen, on an opposite hill, to count our cows and sheep, which comprised the bulk of our perishable property at that time. I heard a gun fire. A few moments afterwards, he reached the house and told us a shot had been fired at him from a little thicket above the spring, and he returned for the old shotgun. As he advanced slowly down the path toward the spring in the deep dusk of evening, he heard steps coming toward him. As he cried 'halt', a tremendous flash greeted him. He replied with a load from one barrel, and his assailant retreated. As the would-be maurauder moved away, his cough betrayed him to be one of our negro men who had joined the Federal troops then encamped outside the city limits. He was wearing away slowly with consumption and died in the camp some two months later. Diseased in body and cursed with ignorant hate and revenge, he came home to do a dreadful deed in a dreaded way. He had assistants for my husband heard voices as his assailant reached the thicket again, as if in consultation.

"Such a night as followed! No one could sleep, and time will never efface the memory of the lonely vigil. There was not a white man within a mile, nor had we a messenger that could be trusted to go in search of help. We had no weapons but the old shotgun I had rescued under the circumstances previously related, and we sat out the lonely hours until daylight dawned on the world again, with few words to each other, momentarily expecting a volley into our sleeping chamber, and with a great deal of uncertainty as to the results of the attack in the darkness. We put out the lights for an obvious reason.

"We discussed many plans for relief and protection, but I continually insisted that I could go to Macon for a guard with greater safety than could my husband or little boy. We were all impressed with the idea that the conspirators would follow with a murderous purpose if our protector should start, and we were hourly watched as we believed. So I claimed the right to go, leaving the defense of the child and our home with my husband. But nobody can imagine the feeling with which we separated that Monday morning, nor the forebodiness that filled my heart as to what terrible calamity might greet my eyes upon my return.

"I rode on horseback to our nearest neighbor's—dear, blessed, kind soul,—may heaven reward him, who made me dismount and sent his son with me, driving his buggy and gentle horse. We passed one camp of Federal soldiers near old Fort Hawkins and crossed over the pontoon bridge into the city without molestation. I rode to Rev. J. W. Burke's to request him to accompany me to General Wilson's headquarters. I found him prostrated by illness,—Rev. E. P. Birch, the pastor of Mulberry Street Church, and a Federal chaplain, were visiting him. I told my story and these two kind ministers volunteered to escort me to the Lanier House, and my gratitude is yet green in my heart for their consideration and attention. We pushed our way through the mixed crowds of dirty men and horses (for as you recollect, the Provost Marshal had his quarters quite near the Lanier House) until we gained the entrance to the hotel. The Federal chaplain remarked: "I will carry you up to General Wilson's parlor without the formality of a card", and we began to ascend the steps to the second story.

"Just then, a smart, dapper little officer, with the Adjutant's insignia on his sleeve, came out from the office below, and inquired of the chaplain 'if General Wilson was wanted?' He then informed us that the General had declined to see any person that morning. The chaplain remarked he would 'take the responsibility of introducing the lady', himself. 'No, you cannot go', the Adjutant persisted. 'General Wilson has given orders to admit no ladies. The last one who came was insolent, and he has denied admittance to all'. Here the chaplain manifested impatience, saying "General Wilson is a gentleman, and my superior officer. I passed my word to this lady that she should state her petition in person', and turning away, he motioned us to advance. The Adjutant hurriedly drew near the steps, called in a whisper to the chaplain and said 'If you must know the truth, you can't see General Wilson at this time for he is closeted with Governor Brown by appointment, and nobody can see him. The Governor came over from Milledgeville very early this morning, and they are transacting business of importance'. The chaplain looked queerly at me and said 'You

hear that, lady, it seems that your Governor will shut you out today'. We then turned to the Provost Marshal's office, and by the entreaties of Mr. Birch and the demands of the kind-hearted chaplain, I was promised a guard within two hours, as the soldier would have to get his horse and equipment from camp before he could start out to our home.

"While I waited for the guard, my heart, tortured by anxious fears for the safety of my dear ones at home, I had ample time to turn over in my mind the probable 'business' that Governor Brown was transacting so secretly in General Wilson's parlor, while Alexander Stephens, B. H. Hill, and so many other prominent men were arrested at the point of the bayonet and treated as outlaws. Even at that time, Jefferson Davis was being hunted down like a beast of prey, — and was brought into Macon a day or so thereafter, with a display of vindictive hate that was terrific to the bystanders.

"To this day. I have never been able to understand the distinction and the difference in Governor Brown's case, unless, indeed my Federal guard was correct, who proved to be a most estimable young Irishman from Cincinnati. On the day that President Davis was brought into Macon a prisoner, my guard happened to go to the city. He came back brimful of the news and exultation that the 'arch fiend' could now swing on the 'sour apple tree'. He told the story of the capture, scoffed at his mean appearance in soiled Confederate gray, hooted at his claim for decent forbearance on the part of the Federal authorities, and with very natural delight, proclaimed the war over, etc. I heard him without protest. My sorrow was too deep for words. Finally, he saw the tears rolling down my cheeks, and gentlemanly instinct checked his torrent of invective. 'Oh, madam, I am sorry for you. Of course, you like Jeff Davis, but he is a bad man,—a very bad man; but you have got one good man among you; he is a good man sure enough'. I asked his name for I was glad to hear that there was one even in Nazareth, as well as anxious to change the subject. 'Why, your Governor Brown, he quicky replied. When we were marching from Columbus, he sent a messenger to tell us that he would have twenty carloads of provisions here ready for us, and they were on hand sure enough.' My honest guard had been misinformed if the statement is not true, for he spoke sincerely. To return to my trip for the guard.

"The day was very sultry, and about one o'clock, the clouds piled up in thunderheads to the zenith. At the appointed time, the guard appeared and we started for home. Just as we reached the river, the rain began to pour, the lightning to blaze, and the heavy thunder reverberated through the Ocmulgee hills. I had no umbrella,—such luxuries had become scarce among us at that time,—and only a light wrap for protection from the weather. A friend in the city to whom I told our troubles kindly offered me a six-shooter, if I could take it

with me. I resolved to try. So I enveloped it carefully (it was loaded) in my mantle, and laid the dreadful shooting-iron very gingerly in my lap at starting — and nothing was ever more gently nursed by anyone.

"The Federal soldiers were so distrustful of the citizens that a great many refused to drink milk or eat the food offered them, dreading poison. I was afraid to show my firearm for the guard's suspicion might then prevail against us. So, I sat throughout the storm, without the slightest protection from its fury,—every thread of clothing thoroughly drenched with rain, afraid to move, lest my dangerous pet might betray itself or injure men,—until I was as wretched as I could well become, in mind and body. My home was constantly in my mind, and the dread of what might have happened in my absence. I had not slept a wink the night before, and I felt that I was growing exceedingly nervous and excitable, fidgety, and hysterical.

"To my great relief, my homefolks were safe,—standing out in plain view in the yard as I approached, so that my mind was relieved at the blissful sight. Rest to the mind brought rest to the poor, tired, drenched frame, and my sleep that night was sweet and refreshing after twenty-four hours of painful excitement and exposure. The guard was with us for two weeks, and during his stay, no difficulty occurred. He became so attached to the family that he wrote more than one letter after he was mustered out of service, thanking us for courtesies shown to him,—so the friendship was mutual.

"In less than two months after the surrender, an epidemic fever prostrated us all on lanquishing beds of illness. Death took my last surviving child, and I bade adieu to your beautiful city and surrounding country with a sad and sorrowing heart. This climax of suffering so greatly overshadowed the trouble that attended the surrender to General Wilson that the recollection of the latter scarcely rises to the dignity of a troubled dream. Wise old Samuel Johnson once remarked 'When any calamity has been suffered, the first thing to be remembered is how much has been escaped."

"Macon suffered,—but how much did Macon escape! Remember Columbia under the torch of Sherman's bummers. If it be true that General Wilson intends to write a history of his raid, and to chronicle the surrender of Macon as the capstone to his success, it will be well to look out for the 'important business' that benefitted our then executive so greatly. On the evening of the same day after the consultation in Macon, or perhaps the next, a squad of soldiers proceeded to Milledgeville, surrounded the mansion, and arrested the Governor, and he wasn't hurt worth a cent, and became richer and more powerful so long as he continued to transact 'business' with aforetime enemies of our Confederacy. We trust General Wilson will write his

book, and we hope the secrecy party of all military negotiations will be carefully removed; and perhaps a flood of light may fall upon the military operations in Macon, and all over Georgia".

The City Under Military Rule

The Federals expected to reap a rich harvest in the plunder of Macon, and had there been any resistance to their entrance, the city undoubtedly would have been sacked and laid in ashes. To the prudence of General Cobb in the destruction of the liquor and the disbandment of his small forces are the citizens indebted for the escape of the city. In some streets, the whisky poured in streams, and as it settled in pools, for days afterwards could be seen numbers of the invaders gathering the fiery liquid in cups and buckets. The very atmosphere was impregnated with its vapors."[54]

Following the surrender of Macon, Governor Brown, on May 3rd, called the legislature in session, and a few days afterwards surrendered the remaining Georgia troops to General Wilson. Though protected from any harm by the terms of his surrender, Brown was arrested on May 11th and sent to Washington. After nine days' detention at the capitol, he was released by Andrew Jackson, who had become president following Lincoln's assassination. An intensive search throughout Georgia was made by Federal troops and other Confederate leaders also arrested. Alexander Stephens was arrested at his home in Crawfordsville, Benjamin H. Hill was seized at LaGrange. Robert Toombs barely made his escape from his home in Washington, Wilkes County, and fled to Europe. The last remnants of the Confederate government had now fallen, and President Davis and several members of his cabinet met together for the last time at Washington, Wilkes County. The last official order of the Confederate government was issued there, and a supply of money, which had been dragged through the country in wagons, was paid out to the soldiers. A few days later, President Davis was captured near Irwinsville, and the Federals in an attempt to discredit him stated that he was caught disguised in woman's apparel. To further humiliate him, they threw him into prison with chains, and thereby, in making him a martyr, elevated him into a lasting hero for the South.[55]

The great Southern crusade for state rights and individual determination had now ended in disaster. The war made many sad histories. The happy families of '61 were bowed and broken in '65. The war years were full of blight and sorrow to thousands of homes,—father, husband, brother, son,—one or all buried under the battlefield, or wasted away in prison. There were many desolated homesteads, and those who survived, broken in heart and fortune, were sometimes

54. Butler: Historical History of Macon.
55. Coulter: Georgia, A Short History.

infinitely worse off than those who went down in combat. For Macon, the period was one of shifting scenes and conflicting emotions. The optimistic beginning of joy and enthusiasm was followed by the period of sorrow and despondency. Many families saw their loved ones march off with banners flying, bands playing, crowds cheering,—only to greet them upon their return with a funeral procession. Many of the flower of the city had fallen in the heat of battle. Those who kept the home-fires burning also suffered, and on many occasions met adversity and even humiliation.

Georgia's heroism and suffering during the Confederacy is strongly illustrated by comparing her losses with those of the other southern states. Georgia lost 481 millions of dollars, or over three-fourths of her wealth; South Carolina, 326 or two-thirds; Mississippi, 355 or two-thirds; Virginia, 186 or two-sevenths; North Carolina, 160 or one-half; Kentucky, 104 or one-fifth; Louisiana, 185 or two-fifths; Tennessee, 69 or one-fifth; Florida, 36 or one-half; Missouri, gained about 286 million. Georgia sent to the fighting front over 120,000 soldiers, or 20,000 more than her voting population at the beginning of the war.

General Cobb, after completing the duties required of him, following his surrender to Wilson, proceeded to his home in Athens, Georgia. A short time thereafter, General Wilson received an order from Secretary of War Stanton, requesting that Cobb be sent to Washington. An officer was sent by Wilson to Athens, and Cobb was arrested and started for Washington. General Wilson then wired the Secretary of War: "I have complied with your order to send General Cobb to Washington. General Cobb has not violated the terms of the parole that I gave him. I demand his instant release, and if this it not done, please accept my resignation as Major-General of the United States forces." General Wilson was then only thirty years old. Subsequently, General Cobb was released and returned home. This affair happened about two weeks before the same action was taken by General Grant in regard to General Lee. Cobb was arrested a second time, and released due to the influence of General Wilson. He was never bothered any further by the Federal authorities afterwards.[56]

General Wilson, in his book "Under the Old Flag", recounts some interesting happenings during his early occupancy of Macon. He tells of giving permission to resume the publication of the daily newspaper, the Messenger, which had been halted upon his arrival, and of furnishing printers from the troops of the 4th Michigan cavalry to assist in editing the paper when the former printers went on strike. He relates his connection with the capture of President Davis, and acknowledges that the details circulated concerning his flight and capture were grossly exaggerated. After President Davis and his party were placed under arrest, they were brought to General Wilson's headquarters in

56. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.



Old Clisby Home Where Union Officers Were Quartered Following War Between the States.

Courtesy of Mrs. Ernest Barfield (Helen Clisby)

Macon at the Lanier Hotel. General Wilson recalls his conversation with Davis, and of Davis' reference to the untimely death of Lincoln, and his remark that he was both surprised and pained to learn that he had been suspected of complicity in the assassination.

He also relates in his book another interesting incident, which is likewise narrated by a former Macon resident, Mr. Edgar Ross, as follows:

"Immediately following the close of the War Between the States, and for several years following, Macon was subjected to martial law, General Wilson, commanding, and Colonel White, provost marshal. Over the sidewalk on Mulberry Street, next door to where the Persons building is now located, a United States flag was suspended. I was walking with my sisters, Ellen and Julia, and cousin, Viola Ross, when Viola suggested that we walk around the 'old rag', which we did. We had proceeded only a few steps when a soldier tapped me on the shoulder and said, 'Colonel White wants to see you'. I returned with him to Colonel White's office, and was put through a pretty severe questioning. He asked my name, which I gave him, and the name of the young ladies. I told him, Ross. He asked if they were my sisters. I answered, 'two of them are, and the other is a cousin.' 'What's her

father's name?', he asked. I answered, 'John', thinking that they would not know that I meant 'Uncle Jack'. They asked 'where does he live?'. I replied that I did not know. 'Is he related to you?' was asked. I replied that he was my uncle. They asked again where he lived, and I replied that I did not know. 'Your Uncle, and you do not know where he lives', they stated. 'That's right', I replied. He had sold his home, and I did not know where he was living at the time, but I did not explain. At this point, a soldier came in with the girls, and they were questioned, and gave sharp answers and no information. The provost allowed them to leave, but ordered me under the flag for thirty minutes, under guard, during which I was forced to march thirty paces and back under the standard. When the girls entered the office, they were accompanied by a friend of ours, Loren Dickinson, who seeing that I was excited, whispered to me, 'Don't attempt anything here. The snapping of a cap would precipitate another riot. There is great excitement on the street'. I had a small pistol in my hip-pocket, and, as I wore a white linen jacket, and dark trousers, I was afraid it would be noticed, but I was not searched, and the weapon was not discovered. I was allowed to proceed on my way after completing the thirty minutes sentence. Later, when General Wilson visited Macon, and was entertained by Judge Emory Speer, he asked to meet the party who refused to walk under the flag. Viola, then Mrs. Anderson Reese, met him and they laughed over the incident."

Confederate Landmarks

Many changes have taken place in Macon since these days. At that time, the Hotel Lanier was called the Lanier House, and extended no farther down Mulberry than the alley. Where the Postoffice now is was a carriage depository kept by C. T. Ward. Farther on down the street was the Medical College, presided over by Dr. Thompson. The jail was on Mulberry Street, near Fifth, and the guardhouse was on Fourth Street, near Poplar. The Hardeman building, corner of Cotton Avenue and Mulberry, was then Concert Hall, with Payne's drugstore located in the basement. There was only a vacant lot across the street from the present Grand building where the J. W. Burke Company is now located. At the corner of Second and Cherry where Roy Williams' drugstore is located was a little, one-story, frame building that had been a dry goods store, and finally a drugstore, and has been used for that purpose ever since. A series of ordinary stores occupied the space on Mulberry that is now the site of the ten-story Persons' building. In the square in which the Macon Telegraph is located, there were no brick buildings at all on the Fourth and Poplar Street sides.

On Poplar Street, between Third and Fourth, there stood the tin shop of W. J. McElroy, who turned his shop into a sword factory, in which was made most of the swords carried by the officers of the Con-

federacy, as well as the canteens worn by the private soldiers. Also, on Poplar, near Second Street, in a building built for a slave market, were made cartridges and other ammunition for the Confederacy. On Forsyth Street, at the corner of Orange, where the Lanier Junior High School for Girls now stands, was the factory for making sidearms. Pistols of the old Colt pattern were made here. At Vineville Branch, near the intersection of Washington and Georgia Avenue, niter was secured for making gunpowder. This was obtained by allowing water to seep through earth taken from smokehouses.[57]

A glance at the political, commercial, and industrial life of Macon at this time disclosed that Stephen Collins was Mayor of the city, and the following were aldermen: James V. Grier, Lewis J. Groce, W. T. Lightfoot, George S. Obear, Virgil Powers, George B. Turpin, and Ed. A. Wilcox. John B. Cummings was City Marshal, and James A. Simpson, Captain of Police. Judge of the Superior Court was Carlton B. Cole; Judge of the County Court, Powhatton B. Whittle; Ordinary, William Riley; Sheriff, J. Joseph Hodges; Clerk of Superior Court, Albert B. Ross; Tax Collector, Frank M. Heath; Tax Receiver, John Jeffers; County Treasurer, John A. McManus; Postmaster J. H. R. Washington; Macon Manufacturing Company (now Bibb Manufacturing Company) John J. Gresham, president, William B. Johnston, James D. Carhart, N. C. Munroe, and T. H. Golt, directors, and J. E. Jones, agent; Macon and Western Railroad, A. J. White, president, B. Clarke, superintendent; Macon and Brunswick Railroad, George Hazlehurst, president, George A. Dure, superintendent; Southwestern Railroad, William S. Holt, president, Virgil Powers, superintendent; Muscogee Railroad, J. L. Mustian, president; Georgia Railroad, John P. King, president, E. W. Cole, superintendent; and Central Railroad, William M. Wadley, superintendent.

Business houses included eight insurance agents; four real estate agents; three artists and photographers; three auctioneers; two bakers; one bank; four bankers; one barber; twelve bars; three bookstores; six boot and shoe stores; two brewers; two carriage dealers; nine confectionaries; one cigar maker; eight clothiers; seven commission merchants; eight cotton buyers; four cotton warehouses; two crockery stores; five dentists; two dressmakers; five druggists; twenty-five dry goods stores; one flour mill; two furniture stores; two gas fitters; forty-two grocers; three gunsmiths; five hardware dealers; two hat and cap shops; one house furnishing goods store; five hotels; two ice dealers; eight jewelers; two livery stables; three machine shops; one marble works; four merchant tailors; eight milliners; two music dealers; two daily newspapers; one weekly; two monthlies; two painters; three restaurants; three saddle and harness shops; two soda bottlers; four tin

57. Centennial Edition, Macon Telegraph, 1923.

shops; five watchmakers; and three wine and liquor stores. The city also had three Justices of the Peace; twenty-six attorneys; and twenty-two physicians.

Of all the mercantile houses, that of L. P. Strong and Sons comes nearest being the oldest one still in existence today. The present store known as Strong Shoe Company had its beginning in the earliest period of the city's history. Schofield Iron Works and Findlay's Iron Works were located here. The drug store corner of Mulberry and Third was built for that use among the first buildings of the city. In 1866, it was occupied as a drugstore by Massenburg and Son, and for almost a hundred years has been used exclusively for this purpose. The same is true of the drugstore location in the Hardeman building at Cotton Avenue and Mulberry.

Churches and pastors in the city at this time included Rev. E. W. Warren, First Baptist; Rev. H. K. Rees, Christ Episcopal; Rev. W. M. Crumley, First Street Methodist; Rev. Joseph S. Key, Mulberry Street Methodist; Rev. David Wills, First Presbyterian; Fathers W. J. Hamilton and J. F. O'Neill, St. Joseph Catholic; John M. Bonnell, Wesleyan College.[58]

There are many historic spots of the Confederacy remaining in Macon, and Mary Callaway Jones in her paper "Some Historic Spots of the Confederacy Period in Macon" has well described some of these as follows:

"Asa Holt House, on Mulberry Street, between Spring and New. This house, built by Asa Holt in 1853, was struck by a cannon ball fired by Major General Stoneman's battery in East Macon during an assault on the city on July 30, 1864. The shell struck the sidewalk, glanced upward, went through the second column from the left, passed over a window, through an upper corner of the front parlor into the hall, landing on the floor of the hallway, where it remained unexploded.

"Office Building at 554½ Mulberry Street, between Second and Third. This was the headquarters of the Georgia Reserves from April, 1864 until the end of the war, under Major General Howell Cobb, with Major Lamar Cobb as Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General. When Major General Wilson occupied the city after General Lee's surrender, he used these same headquarters.

"Washington Block, corner of Mulberry and Second Streets. The Macon Volunteers had their armory hall during the war and until the present armory was built in 1884 on the third floor of this building. This building was erected in 1857 by J. M. Boardman after the fire in 1855 destroyed Washington Hall, which occupied the same site.

"Balcony Rail at 515 College Street. This rail from the old Union

58. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.

Depot on Broadway (then Fourth Street) was used by Jefferson Davis on May 3, 1886, when he addressed the citizens of Macon. He kissed the flag of the Jackson artillery, and in this his daughter tenderly joined him. With his arm around her, Mr. Davis introduced Winnie as 'my daughter, the child of the Confederacy'. Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Howell Cobb were also on the balcony. Marker erected by U.D.C.

"City Hall, on Poplar Street between First and Cotton. Macon's City Hall was the temporary capitol of Georgia during the latter part of 1864 and the early months of 1865. The capitol was moved here by Governor Brown following Sherman's capture of Milledgeville. The last Georgia legislature under the Confederacy was held here. The March term of the Supreme Court of Georgia also met here. After the battle of Chickamauga, the building was used as a hospital for sick and wounded soldiers until the close of the war. A picket, doing guard duty on the portico, was shot by a Federal soldier as General Wilson entered the city on April 20, 1865. Remodeled. Marker by U.D.C.

"Hotel Lanier, on Mulberry Street, between Second and Third, was formerly the Lanier House. Jefferson Davis was brought here as a prisoner following his capture near Irwinville, Georgia on Saturday, May 13, 1865. He and his entire party, composed of his wife, his daughter, Winnie, and other children, Mrs. Howell, Miss Howell, his private secretary, Colonel Burton N. Harrison, Mr. Reagan, Colonels Johnston, Lubbock, and Morris, and Lieutenant Hathaway, were sent by special train to Atlanta on the evening of the same day.

"The Clinic, on Walnut Street between Second and Third. Former residence of Major General Howell Cobb from April, 1864 until his death in 1868. He was in command of the Georgia Reserves and the Georgia Militia. The home was inherited by Mrs. Howell Cobb upon the death of her brother, Colonel John B. Lamar in September, 1862. The Lamar Infantry was named after the latter. Home originally built for Dr. Ambrose Baber. Remodeled. Marker erected by U.D.C.

"Marshall Johnson House, on Coleman Hill at Georgia Avenue. Here ex-President Davis, Mrs. Davis, and their two daughters, Mrs. Margaret Hayes and Varina Ann Davis, were the house guests of Captain and Mrs. Joseph Marshall Johnston from October 24 to November 2, 1887, coming to attend the Confederate veterans re-union and the State Fair. Here, Mr. Davis and family, with Governor Gordon and Senator A. H. Colquitt, received the Confederate veterans from the front veranda, and kissed the folds of the flag of Cobb's Legion, waving it over the heads of the veterans. This was the last visit of Mr. Davis to Macon. House built in 1883 by Captain Johnston, a Confederate veteran.

"Dunlap House, East Macon, on Milledgeville Road to Cross Keys. Both battles fought during the war at Macon centered here. Twice

the Federals planted their cannon on this farm. The first time was on July 30, 1864 when Stoneman's artillery shelled Macon from this point from ten in the morning until late afternoon. The second occasion was on November 20, 1864, when General Kilpatrick, in command of Federal force under Sherman, crossed Walnut Creek, and attacked Macon from the same point."

Many prominent business and residential locations in the city are reminiscent of the days of the Confederacy. The Confederate States armory was located on Elm Street, between Jackson and Telfair. The Confederate States Central Laboratory was located at the corner of Second and Poplar, which was also the site of an old slave market. Another Laboratory, making guns, rifles, bullets, etc., was located at 507 Mulberry, where Stewart Oil Company is now located. An arsenal was located on Fifth Street, or "Bridge Row", as it was then called, near the old Southern depot; while still another Laboratory was located in Vineville, near the railroad tracks. On Mulberry Street, east of the Hotel Lanier was located the headquarters of Colonel Jack Brown, who commanded the Military Post, 59th Regiment of Georgia Volunteers, until 1862. The Confederate Depository was located on Second Street between Mulberry and Walnut, across the street from the present location of the R. A. McCord Motor Company. The Floyd House, at the corner of Mulberry and Third Streets, was used as a general hospital for Confederate soldiers. Here was located the headquarters of Dr. James Mercer Green, Surgeon-General, in charge of all hospitals in Bibb County. The Bibb County Academy, on Academy Square, occupying the block bounded by Walnut, Ocmulgee, First, and Second Streets, was turned into a hosiptal during the war with Dr. Chaille, surgeon-in-charge. The Blind Academy, then located between Orange and College Streets where the Nevarro Apartments now stands, was also converted into a hospital with Dr. George F. Cooper, surgeon-in-charge. Other hospitals included the old passenger station at the corner of Fourth and Plum, which occupied the site of the present Kingman and Company building. The old station house was converted into a hospital in July, 1864, when the hospitals in Atlanta were all removed to Macon. Dr. Theodore Parker was surgeon-in-charge. In Vineville, between Pierce Avenue and Hines Terrace, rows of tents were erected which also served as hospital shelters. These tents were used as emergency equipment and were necessitated by the increasing number of wounded and disabled soldiers who were arriving in Macon daily from the battle front. The wounded were transferred from the Vineville railway station to the tents, and the citizens of Vineville furnished their carriages and other equipment for this hospital encampment. Several camps were located in and around Macon. These included Camp Oglethorpe, on Seventh Street, between Pine and Hawthorne, where the Central railroad yards are now located; Camp

Rescue, opposite Rose Hill cemetery; Camp Cobb, not located; Camp Cooper, not located; and Camp Wright, near Fort Hawkins. Fortifications of the city still existing include two near PioNono Avenue, one at Anthony Road; the other at the Central of Georgia railroad; one between Napier and Montpelier; one on Lundy Road near the Prado; one near the grave of W. L. Stribling in Riverside cemetery; one on the Dunlap property near the Indian Mounds; one on Clinton Road near Central City College; and another in North Highlands. Two located in Vineville and Cherokee Heights have been destroyed.

A number of residences still stand in the city which have rich heritages of activity during the Confederacy. Among these are the William B. Johnston home, at the corner of Georgia Avenue and Spring Street, now owned by P. L. Hay. This was the residence of Mr. Johnston, who was the depositary of the Confederate treasury; the Cowles-Bond House, on Coleman Hill at Bond Street, the present home of Mrs. B. P. O'Neal, Sr. Built by Jerry Cowles and occupied by the Bond family from 1874 to 1879. General Wilson, the Federal commander of the city following the War Between the States, is reputed to have selected this site for his Macon residence during the occupancy of the city. The Scott House on Georgia Avenue below Orange Street was the residence of Isaac Scott, prominent banker, for whom the Scott Infantry and Scott Sharpshooters were named. Sold to W A. Huff in 1865, now owned by Dr. S. C. Hays; Thaddeus Goode Holt house, on Georgia Avenue between Orange and College. Thaddeus G. Holt, Jr., was an officer in the Bibb County cavalry and the Ocmulgee Rangers. Now owned by A. M. Peeler; Lewis N. Whittle house, on Jefferson Terrace. Col. Whittle was one of the outstanding citizens of Macon during the war, helping to equip companies, raise money, and secure other needs for the Confederacy. Although over-age for service, he was commander-in-chief of the Bibb County militia. The Whittle Guards, organized in 1862, were named for him. House now owned by Mrs. Marilyn H. Davis, Huguenin house, on Jefferson Terrace. This was the home of Edward D. Huguenin, for whom the Huguenin Rifles, organized in 1861, were named. The house was built by James A. Nisbet. It is now owned by Mrs. Mary D. Birdsey. John J. Gresham House, on College Street near Jefferson Terrace. Built by Judge John J. Gresham in 1846. The Gresham Rifles, organized in 1862, were named for him. Now owned by Mrs. Dorothy G. Massenburg. John Hill Lamar house on Orange Street between Washington Avenue and High. This was the home of Colonel John Hill Lamar, 61st Georgia Infantry Volunteers, who was killed July 9, 1864. His sisters, Augusta and Virginia, used their musical talent to raise money to equip companies, furnish supplies, etc., through the Soldiers' Relief Society. It was here that Sidney Lanier met Mary Day. The home is still occupied by descendants of the family; Clifford Anderson house, on the corner of Orange Street

and Daisy Park. This was the home of Clifford Anderson, an officer in the Floyd Rifles and later, member of the Confederate Congress. His sister, Mary Jane Anderson, was the mother of Sidney Lanier. House was built by Clifford Anderson in 1859 and is the present residence of Robt. L. Anderson, Sr. Sidney Lanier Cottage, on High Street. It was here that Sidney Lanier, the South's most noted poet, was born. He served with the Second Georgia battalion and later the Signal Corps. Made outstanding contributions in the field of music and literature. House now owned by Mrs. O. H. McAfee; James Mercer Green house, on Poplar Street at Washington Avenue. This was the home of Dr. James Mercer Green, Surgeon-General, in charge of all hospitals in Bibb county. Built in 1840, for many years the residence of the Poe family, the house is now owned by H. Lee Barfield; Findlay house, at the corner of Second and Oak. Used at the present time as the home for the Y.W.C.A. Was built in 1856 by Robert Findlay and occupied by his sons, Major Christopher D. of Findlay's battalion and later Lieutenant Colonel of the Fifth Georgia Reserves; James N., Robert B., Charles S., and George W. Findlay, all soldiers in the Confederate army; Leroy Napier house, on Napier Avenue near Lanier Senior High School for Boys. This home was built by Colonel Leroy Napier, Sr., who made the largest individual investment to the Confederate loan fund, subscribing $58,000 in Confederate bonds in 1861. His son, F. Leroy Napier, a graduate of West Point, was elected Captain of the Bibb County cavalry, and also served with the Second battalion, Georgia Infantry; was Captain of the Napier Artillery; and later Adjutant of the Tenth Georgia Infantry. Home occupied by the family until recent years; William S. Moughon house, on Orange Street near Bond. This was the residence of Colonel William S. Moughon, for whom the Moughon Infantry, organized in 1863, was named. Presently owned by Mrs. H. G. Ferrell; Asher Ayres house, corner of Walnut and Third. This house was completed in 1863 when the city was overrun with sick and wounded soldiers. The six bedrooms on the second floor and four others in the attic were used as hospital rooms, and members of the Ayres family and their servants cared for the hospitalized soldiers. Descendants of the family presently occupy the house; Francis R. Goulding house, on Walnut between Spring and New. This was the residence of Rev. Francis R. Goulding, author and inventor, who had a high school for young ladies here during the war. Owned and occupied by Miss Birdie Baber-Blackshear; Washington Poe home, on Third Street between Walnut and Ocmulgee. This is the one-story with basement house on the southeast side of Third Street between Ocmulgee and the 20-foot alley. Residence of Mrs. Selina Shirley (Norman) Poe, wife of Hon. Washington Poe, who organized the Soldiers' Relief Society in Macon, on April 27, 1861, and served as

president. Under her supervision, the Society made thousands of garments, hosiptal bandages, and other equipment, and collected and distributed all kinds of necessities and boxes for the soldiers. Members of the Society visited and assisted in the many hospitals in this area, and after the war, sponsored appropriate activities to commemorate the soldiers of the Confederacy. This property is now known as the Julia Jones home. There are, without saying, other residences in the city which date back during this period, but neither time nor space will permit a complete description of all.[58A]

Post - War Problems

The great Southern adventure, which had literally been forced upon the South, to protect property, principle, and honor, was now a thing of the past. Most Georgians were glad that the war was over, although they had no regrets for the motives which impelled their belligerency. With the collapse of the Confederacy, however, came a multiplicity of problems and untold hardships which the people of Macon, and of the South, found almost unbearable. Every ounce of energy, strength, and courage was challenged to deal with these conditions. There were the problems of having to readjust to new conditions, the destruction of her economic system, the worthlessness of her currency, the loss of the wealth of her people, the flower of her manhood killed and the returning soldiers war-worn and penniless, the further humiliation fo her citizens by the victorious North, the President and Congress at odds concerning a policy of reconstruction, the carpetbaggers and scalawags in power, the presence of occupation troops, the newly emancipated slaves drunk with the feeling of power which their sudden liberation had given them, and the difficult and oppressive situations brought about by the ruthless and harsh measures of reconstruction which were imposed through the influence of a few members of the government still bitter in their feelings toward the South.[59]

It is interesting to note that a number of the sons of the Northern states, who settled in Macon shortly prior to the war, shared in these hardships, and even served on the battlefields with the comrades of their newly adopted state. In some cases, these men fought against their own kindred in behalf of their newly acquired neighbors and friends. During the gloomy days of reconstruction, they continued active in their zeal to serve their community with loyalty and devotion. Although the list is not complete, included in this group were Charles H. Baird, I. B. English, Thurston Bloom, Frank Bloom, Charles Campbell, Nathan Weed, Charles Brannon, J. N. Keen, Theodore Parker, W. W. Barker, D. B. Woodruff, Levi H. Wing, Lorenzo Ripley, E.

58A. Information and present owner of property furnished by W. P. Gaillard, city marshal; and Bruce C. Jones, attorney-at-law.
59. Orville A. Park: Bench and Bar of Macon.

Feutchwanger, Simeon Theus, W. A. Hopson, G. W. Dingler, George A. Keith, and Charles Pruden.[60]

After the occupation of Macon, General Wilson directed Mayor Collins to continue on in his capacity as Mayor, and appointed Colonel J. H. R. Washington as Postmaster. At the time of the occupation, the Crisp family, W. H., the father of the late Speaker of the House, with his wife and three daughters and son, Harry, and a comedian named Sam Hubbard, were playing at the Ralston Theater, at the corner of Cherry and Third. For the first two nights after the entrance of the army into Macon, the hall was dark. It was feared that with a conglomeration of Yankee soldiers, hot-headed Macon youths, and newly freed negro slaves that there might be trouble. But two nights later, the Hall was opened with a nightly guard of soldiers to quell any trouble that might occur. This fact was noted on the programs, but there was relative little disturbance. The people were getting used to the new condition. The war was over, and they wanted as much peace as possible. The ticket office of the theater at that time was on the Cherry Street side, and it was amusing to stand at the entrance and watch the purchase of tickets. Confederate money was the only currency. The soldiers had brought a few greenbacks with them, but these had not gotten into circulation. The admission price was a dollar, a figure that seemed to meet any kind of currency which might be available, but no person tendered a dollar. It was a ten, or a twenty, or a fifty, and often a hundred dollar bill that was pushed in the window. The phrase of "keep the change" was not invented then. The purchaser simply asked for one or more tickets, as the case might be, pushed in his bill, and said nothing. No change was tendered and none was expected. Rations from Confederate stores were later used to pay for the tickets. Gradually, the worthless Confederate money was replaced by greenbacks and silver as the occupation forces began to spend the Federal money which was issued to them on regular pay-days.

James Johnson, of Columbus, who had been appointed by President Andrew Johnson as the provisional governor of Georgia to reorganize the state visited Macon on July 15, 1865. In an address at the City Hall, with General Wilson and Thomas Hardeman occupying the stage with him, he stated that he was appointed for a single purpose,—that of enabling the people of Georgia to form a government. He pointed out that slavery existed no more, and this fact would have to be recognized in a new constitution.

On July 20, 1865, A. P. Burr, editor of the Macon Journal and Messenger, took the prescribed amnesty oath necessary to restore citizenship and recorded in the paper that "after the performance, we smiled". For this deed, he was arrested, his office seized, and the publication of his paper stopped.

60. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.

The First National Bank of Macon was organized in 1865 under the United States National Bank Act of 1863. I. C. Plant was elected president and W. W. Wrigley, cashier.

During the fall of the year, William B. Johnston was elected president of the Central Railroad, succeeding Richard R. Cuyler, who had served in that capactiy for twenty-three years. Mr. Cuyler died at the conclusion of the war when the Federal army was entering Macon. Sherman had destroyed the entire railroad from Gordon to Savannah on his march to the sea the previous year, and it was the principal duty of Mr. Johnston to promote the raising of funds for rebuilding the line. Despite the unfavorable economic conditions which confronted him, Mr. Johnston was successful in his efforts and raised about $1,000,000 to rebuild the road. In the fall of the following year, operations were resumed.[61]

New Citizens Aid City

Many outstanding new citizens moved to Macon immediately following the close of the war, and played a large part in the life of the city during the dark days of reconstruction and the more pleasant period following. Some of these gained state-wide and even national recognition.

Included among these newcomers were General Howell Cobb, who had commanded the States Reserves and had his headquarters in Macon during the latter part of the war. James Jackson, who had been Judge of the Western Circuit, member of Congress, and Judge of the Military Court of Stonewall Jackson's corps, came from Walton County, forming a law partnership with General Cobb. From Forsyth, came J. W. Cabaniss, prominent in banking circles for many years. Robert H. Brown was a newcomer from Hawkinsville. He later became president of the Central Georgia Bank. From Sparta, where he had taught school, came N. E. Harris, afterwards Governor of Georgia. Augustus O. Bacon, just out of the University of Georgia, came here to practice law. He was Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives for many terms, and was later elected United States Senator. Isaac Hardeman, prominent lawyer and churchman, came to this city from Jones County, where he served as a field officer in a Georgia regiment. James H. Blount, a member of Congress for twenty years and special commissioner to Hawaii, was also a new resident. R. F. Burden, so long a prominent influence in the business and religious life of the city, moved here at this time. From Albany, came Richard F. Lyon, who was active in the affairs of the Supreme Court of Georgia. W. R. Cox came from Perry. Judge Samuel Hall and his son, the Hon. Joseph H. Hall, moved here from Fort Valley. T. J. Simmons, later president of the Georgia Senate and Chief Justice of Georgia, came here from

61. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

Knoxville. Coming from Monticello was Charles L. Bartlett, legislator, solicitor general, judge, and for twenty years Congressman from this district. T. D. Tinsley and Dr. Charles H. Hall came from Milledgeville. Major J. F. Hanson came from Pike County. From New York, came Edward and William Wolf. From South Carolina, there were Benjamin L. Willingham and son-in-law, Richard F. Lawton, prominent in the business and social life of the city. East Tennessee sent to Macon J. M. Johnston and his brother, William McEwen Johnston, who were among the builders of Macon. Other newcomers included E. J. Johnson, S. R. Jaques, the Dannenbergs, the Nussbaums, S. T. Coleman, A. R. Lamar, William B. Johnston, and many more reflected in the life and activities of the community.[62]

Macon Immediately Following the War

As the sun rose on January 1, 1866, the people of Macon looked forward to a more prosperous New Year than 1865 had proven to be. Their city was ravaged from the evil influences of war, its morale was at the lowest ebb, and most of the Federals were interested in nothing more than securing the Negro vote for the National Republican Party. Although greatly displeased with the presence of the Federal soldiers in their city, Maconites welcomed news from Washington that the Representatives and Senators from Georgia would be seated in Congress before too long.[63] It was then that the editor of the Telegraph raised the question: "When shall our eyes be taken off of ebony in uniform in our city?", referring, of course, to the negro troops in and around Macon. However, the editor of the Telegraph blasted those who favored the return of Senators to Washington who would take the oath test by stating: "Better a thousand times that we have no representatives in Washington, than to send men there who do not sympathize with a majority of the people of the South. The black Republicans must have someone to quarrel with, and if there is no one from the South to oppose them, they will soon get to fighting among themselves". This appeared to be the sentiment of a majority of the people of Macon at this time.

The people of Macon were both disgusted and amazed with the announcement by the Federal government that the amount of the public debt was $2,800,000,000, with only $90,000,000 in the treasury. As a result of this tremendous debt, a dispatch from Washington gave the order to muster out of service many of the troops, both white and black, in the Macon district.

Business was slowly being expanded, and was evidenced by several new concerns which were making progress. Gus Bernd and Company and Dannenberg and Company were typical of the new businesses of

62. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.
63. Paper by James L. Findlay—"The Year After."

1866. The reopening of the Central Railroad to Savannah during the year was a stimulus to increased trade.

At this particular time of Macon's history, with thousands of Federal troops and recently liberated slaves in the city, there were numerous instances of both petty and serious crimes. Several murders occurred during the year, including the brutal slaying in January of Henry Grantham by four negro soldiers. There were also numerous instances of larceny and burglary, and no chicken house or smokehouse in the city was immune from pilfering. Among the many smokehouses robbed of all of their contents was that of Judge Eugenius A. Nisbet. In some sections of the city, neighbors would take turns performing night watchman duty for an entire block.

Macon firemen eleted George S. Obear as their chief and Henry Westcott, assistant chief, during January. The editor of the Telegraph, in a January issue, appealed to northern capitalists by saying: "We hope some shrewd Yankee with a long purse may come along and give us a practical illustration of his wisdom and enterprise". The Lanier House was located at the same place on Mulberry Street as the Lanier Hotel is now, and George M. Logan was the manager. Judicial officers of Bibb County were Judge Cole and Solicitor Branham. City physician was Dr. Hartley Hall. A clear sign of progress was reflected during the year by the paving of Cherry Street, and the improvements made on the City Jail. The Fifth Street bridge was completed and ready for opening in a short time. City Council established a city hospital to care for the sick of the city's underprivileged, and at the same time installed a drinking fountain in the Mulberry Street Park. The Mayor and his Chief-of-Police finally obtained offices in the City Hall.

The trial of a case in Superior Court involving a railroad robbery attracted considerable attention. The issues in the case were relatively unimportant, but the small courthouse was packed and jammed with interested spectators who came to get a glimpse of General Howell Cobb in the role of trial lawyer again for the first time since the beginning of the War Between the States. The General was calm and smooth, and as deliberate and persuasive as ever. A Federal officer for no reason other than "hatred for the niggers" shot and killed a negro woman. After a long and confused court martial, the soldier was acquitted in spite of his own testimony of guilt, which, the Federals said, was too horrible to be true. Another soldier, declaring to the last minute when he was led to the gallows that he was innocent, ended the famous "Captain Clock of Ohio" murder case with his life. This case attracted much attention from all over the nation.

A terrible tornado ripped through Georgia during early spring, causing some damage to Macon and Middle Georgia. J. D. McManus was elected City Treasurer in April, receiving 74 more votes than two

opponents. During the same month, General Brannan stated that disorders arising from the colored population would be handled by civil rather than military authorities. Maconites looked upon this as an important step toward the restoration of home-rule. Simultaneously with the Brannan announcement, came the enormous sale of shot, shell, and machinery at the Macon Military Arsenal, bringing purchasers to this city from such distant points as New York, and even Boston.

Throughout the year, the Federal Provost Marshal was swamped with incidents involving the newly emancipated freedmen. No trouble was given by the country slaves. It is history that many of them would not leave their masters, and when told to go, begged with tears in their eyes to remain. They were loyal at all times. However, many incidents of robbery, burglary, assault, and misunderstanding occurred with the newly liberated slaves in town. Federal troops made matters worse by sometimes encouraging these freedmen to "get even" with their former masters. For a long time, not a day passed that the Provost Marshal's office was not crowded with negroes making complaints against citizens, or citizens on trial for assault, or negroes being accused of various violations of law by offended whites. But, as time passed, and the novelty of their newly-won freedom wore off, a great majority of the negroes settled down to the normalcy of their status.

To help Maconites take their minds off the many problems which confronted them were the several entertaining plays and operas from New York and Chicago which appeared during the year. The season's best, judging from the attendance, were the play from Chicago, "Lady of Lyons", and the opera from New York, "La Traviata". Both of these gave sell-out performances to appreciative audiences. Professor J. M. Sarl, well known ventriloquist, also paid Macon a short visit in order to entertain large audiences with his well known acts.

An attempt was made during the year to burn the City Jail, but was foiled when city police practically annihilated the guilty parties. During June, D. N. Martin, well known Georgia newspaperman visited the city and expressed great amazement at the rapid growth and hospitality it possessed. July 4th, 1866 saw no public parade or affair from the white people of the city. The only public meeting was that of the negroes of the city at Rose Hill cemetery. At sunrise, sunset, and noon, the national salute was fired from the banks of the Ocmulgee River. Some improvement in transportation facilities was noted when speed of the local locomotives was increased to twenty miles per hour. At this time, cotton pickers were advertised at $15.00 per week.

The citizens of Macon were surprised by the resignation of Solicitor General Branham on August 10th. He was replaced by Josiah F. Bass. Shortly afterwards, the people were saddened by the death of Sheriff

J. Joseph Hodges. Appointed acting Sheriff to succeed him was Wiley Russell. The uniformization of City Police was completed with uniforms made of Confederate Gray wool. Upon completion of one of Macon's dryest city elections, George S. Obear was elected Mayor over T. W. Brantley by a vote of 533 to 416. Aldermen elected included William H. Ross, O. G. Sparks, H. P. Westcott, C. J. Harris, G. B. Turpin, J. V. Grier, W. T. Lightfoot, and E. Crockett. Charles J. Williamson and Richard Curd were elected Clerk and Treasurer, respectively. Other city officials were James B. Cooper, street superintendent; John B. Cummings, chief of police; Robert Cunningham, bridgekeeper; and Albert Freeman, city surveyor.

Many exciting incidents, disturbing rumors, and altercations between individuals and groups occurred during this period subsequent to the war, — brought about mainly by the presence of Federal troops garrisoned among Maconites, the restlessness of our white citizens, particularly those affected most by the war, the activities of the Freedman's Bureau, and the effect of freedom on the blacks. For a long time, the carpetbaggers, negroes, and scalawags held control of the political machines of the state, and measures of oppression were passed which were almost unbearable. Of the 166 delegates who were elected to remake the fundamental law of Georgia in 1867, thirty-seven were negroes, nine were carpetbaggers, 108 were scalawags, and about a dozen were conservative white Georgians. Included among the group was Aaron Bradley, a convict from New York; Tunis Campbell, a filibuster from New England; and numerous other individuals of very questionable character and qualifications.

In Macon, Pulaski Holt, a negro merchant, who bore the same name as a prominent white citizen, was elected an alderman over J. B. Ross; and a negro barber, Ed Woodliff, likewise defeated Ben C. Smith for a Council seat. Henderson Dumas, a negro, also was elected to City Council. Two negroes from Macon were elected to Congress, while two others were appointed postmasters.[64]

Ladies' Memorial Association

In 1866, a Ladies' Memorial Association was organized in Macon, and Mrs. Thomas Hardeman was elected president. On April 26th, of the following year, the first baptism of flowers over the Confederate dead occurred at the old and new cemeteries. Since the city was still under military rule and a number of Federal officers were present, the only ceremonies possible were a prayer from a minister, the scattering of flowers, and the repairing of mounds over the graves. In 1868, the Memorial Association was permanently organized. Mrs. Isaac Winship was named president, and Miss Kate Fort, secretary.[65]

64. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.
65. Butler: Historical Record of Macon.

Following the war, the remains of many of the Macon volunteers, who lost their lives on distant battlefields were returned to Macon. The Ladies' Memorial Association was very active in helping to promote this project. According to the Macon Telegraph and Messenger, 1884, the Association was caring for some nine hundred graves of Confederates, who were honored with appropriate ceremonies and memorials on regular occasions.

Prominent among the Confederate dead, whose remains have been removed from distant battlefields to Rose Hill Cemetery are Colonel Isaac G. Seymour, the oldest soldier of all. He was for seventeen years editor-in-chief of the Georgia Messenger; was the first Mayor of Macon; and three times elected to that office. He was for many years captain of the Macon Volunteers and commanded them in Major Mark A. Cooper's battalion in the Florida Seminole War of 1836. In 1847, by appointment from Governor Crawford, he organized the battalion of Georgia cavalry for the Mexican War and participated in the closing scenes of that war, when he was appointed governor of Castle Perote, the home of Santa Anna, by General Winfield Scott. He received General Santa Anna after his surrender, and escorted him through the Mexican territory to the coast, when he sailed for Jamaica.

At the close of the war with Mexico, Colonel Seymour located in New Orleans and became chief editor and proprietor in that valuable paper, the Commercial Bulletin. On the breaking out of the war, Colonel Seymour was simultaneously elected colonel of two regiments raised in New Orleans. He accepted the command of one of them in 1861, and immediately left with it for Virginia. He visited Macon, his old home, en route, and expressed the desire in the event of his death that his remains would be brought to Macon and interred by those of his beloved wife and three children in Rose Hill Cemetery. He fell in the battles around Richmond, at the head of his regiment, acting as brigadier general, in the sixty-first year of his life. After the war, his remains were recovered by his son, Major William G. Seymour, also a Confederate officer, and interred as he had requested.

Colonel John B. Lamar was a private, when quite a youth, in the Florida war, a member of the Macon Volunteers. He, with Hon. Washington Poe and Hon. Eugenius A. Nisbet, were the three delegates from Bibb County to the state convention at Milledgeville in January, 1861, when Georgia seceded from the union. He joined the staff of his brother-in-law, General Howell Cobb, in 1862, and fell mortally wounded at the battle of Crampton's Gap. His remains were brought home for interment in Rose Hill.

Captain Robert A. Smith first commanded the Macon Volunteers in the Second Georgia battalion one year in Virginia. He then raised the Forty-fourth Georgia regiment; was elected its Colonel; and en-

listed it in the Confederate army in Virginia. He was killed leading his regiment in the seven days fights around Richmond in 1862. An appropriate monument marks his remains at Rose Hill.

Major George W. Ross left Macon as First Lieutenant of the Floyd Rifles, and was elected Captain upon the organization of the Second Georgia battalion and the election of Captain Hardeman, of the Floyd Rifles, as Major. After one year's service in Virginia, Hardeman resigned, and raised the Forty-fifth Georgia regiment. The battalion was reorganized, all the four companies remaining with it, by the election of Captain Ross as Major. He was killed at Gettysburg. His remains were sent home and buried in Rose Hill. A monument is erected over them.

Captain George A. Smith raised a company in Macon early in 1861, and with Captain Aderhold's company, became a part of the First Georgia regiment of volunteers, which was stationed at the navy yards below Pensacola, Florida. During the heavy, thirty-six hour bombardment of Warrenton, a village where the navy yard was located, the only loss which General Bragg's Confederates sustained was five men in Captain Smith's company, resulting from the explosion of a magazine by a shell from Fort Pickens. The remains of the five men were brought home and buried in Rose Hill. Captain Smith was promoted to Colonel, and was killed in the battle near Franklin, Tennessee, in 1864. After the war, his remains were brought home and buried at Rose Hill.

Brigadier General Edward D. Tracy, born and reared in Macon, removed to Alabama shortly before the war. He organized a company in Huntsville, fought at the first battle of Manassas in the Alabama Fourth, alongside of the Georgia Seventh and Eighth. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel; then Colonel; and fought at the battle of Shiloh. He was then promoted to Brigadier General, and was killed while in command of the Confederates at the battle of Port Gibson, Mississippi, May 1, 1863. After the war, his remains were brought to Macon and interred at Rose Hill. He also has a monument.

Colonel John Hill Lamar, of the Sixty-first Georgia, and his Lieutenant Colonel, James D. VanValkenburg were both killed on the same day in June, 1864, at the battle of Monocacy, Maryland. Their remains were later brought home and buried in Rose Hill, a monument being erected to their memory.

Colonel Z. T. Conner, of the Twelfth Georgia regiment in Virginia, also had been a Lieutenant of the Macon Volunteers in the Florida War of 1836. Died in Macon and buried at Rose Hill.

Sergeant John B. Ross, Jr., of the Ocmulgee Rangers, a gallant youth, under-age, killed in Kentucky. Remains brought to Macon, and a handsome monument erected over them.

Major Frank S. Bloom, on the staff of General Henry R. Jackson, in Virginia; died in 1862 a few days after his return to Macon on account of exposure in the army.

Lieutenant Thomas K. Campbell, Macon Volunteers, mortally wounded at Gettysburg, taken prisoner, and died at Fortress Monroe. Remains brought home after the war and buried in Rose Hill. Also, Lieutenant E. C. Grannis, Macon Volunteers, killed at same time in same battle.

Colonel Thomas W. Mangham, Thirtieth Georgia regiment, desperately wounded at Jonesboro, died since war.

Lieutenant L. H. Wing, of Macon Volunteers wounded and captured at Gettysburg, died since war, buried at Rose Hill, monument over him.

Captain Samuel Hunter, first a member of the Macon Volunteers; died since war; has a monument.

Captain B. A. Wise, member of cavalry; died since war; buried Rose Hill; monument over his remains.

Captain B. F. Ross, first a private in Macon Volunteers; founder of the Floyd Rifles; for many years its captain; during war was Major of Battalion B at Macon; died since the war.

There are also many officers buried at Rose Hill who served in the old wars. Among these are Judge T. G. Holt, Sr., who was a Lieutenant and Adjutant under General John Floyd in the War of 1812; Dr. Ambrose Baber, surgeon in the army of General Jackson against the southern Indians; Captain Isaac Holmes for many years commander of the Macon Volunteers; First Sergeant of the Company in the Seminole War in 1836; later Mayor of Macon; later Commander of the Macon Guards, who fought in the war against Mexico.

Macon citizens were saddened by the sudden death of General Howell Cobb in 1868 while on a visit to New York. The late Orville A. Park in his "Bench and Bar of Macon" states that "Georgia has had no more distinguished son than Howell Cobb,—Speaker of the National House of Representatives, Secretary of the Treasury, Governor of Georgia, President of the Provisional Government of the Confederacy, Major-General, and withal a profound lawyer. His argument on the constitutionality of state laws was said by Chief Justice Lumpkin to have been the strongest to which he had ever listened".

Reconstruction Problems Continue

Georgia in 1869 was still caught up in a whirlwind of confusion and chaos. Carpetbaggers and former slaves remained in control of the government. The Federal troops had withdrawn the previous summer, leaving in their place disorder and unrest. The state's social, political, and financial life had shown hardly any improvement. Georgia continued to face the most difficult period in her history,—reconstruction

and rehabilitation. In March, 1869, Congress passed an act requiring Governor Bullock to convene the legislature, including the negro members who had previously been expelled, for the purpose of ratifying the Fifteenth Amendment. In January, 1870, this was done, and immediately thereafter, the Federal government began proceedings to have Georgia readmitted to the Union. This action was consummated in June, and Georgia became the last state to be returned to the Union.[66]

During the latter part of May, 1869, news was received in Macon from Washington stating that President Grant had appointed a negro preacher, H. M. Turner, who later became a Bishop of the Negro Methodist Church, postmaster of the city. A wave of indignation swept over the city, and the Telegraph commenting on the situation, stated at the close of an editorial: "Well the faster the administration falls, the sooner it will meet bottom". A mass meeting was called during the early part of June, and a committee of three leading citizens, with Judge C. B. Cole, as chairman, was directed to go to Washington, call upon the president, and ask a revocation of Turner's appointment. Judge Cole immediately complied, and his committee proceeded to the capitol. They were cordially received, and given a fair hearing. President Grant stated that he realized the appointment was a mistake, and that he had already instructed Postmaster General Creswell to advise Turner accordingly. The committee returned in good spirits, but soon it was rumored that the appointment was going through regardless. It was believed that this change was due to interference by members of the president's cabinet. Turner had many difficulties in making his bond, but finally qualified for the post, and took charge of the post office in July, 1869. A few days later, a negro woman appeared in Macon and was arrested for passing stolen national bank notes, to which bank officials names had been forged. She implicated Turner, who was also arrested, and both were taken to Atlanta for a hearing before the United States Commissioner. The evidence against Turner was not sufficient to hold him, however, and he was discharged. At the hearing, gross immorality on Turner's part was brought out in the evidence, and his removal followed. His tenure of office covered a period less than two weeks. Pending the reinstatment of J. H. R. Washington, the office was in charge of Special Agent Woodward. Turner, the year before, had been one of Macon's delegates to the constitutional convention in Atlanta, which was called the "black and tan" convention of 1868.[67]

During the year 1869, the Southwestern railroad was leased by the Central road. General William S. Holt and Virgil Powers continued active in the operation of the new set-up. The Central Bank of Georgia

66. Paper by Charles Hartness—"Reconstruction and Rehabilitation."
67. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.

organized and started business operations in December, 1869. Officers included John E. Jones, president, and T. W. Mangham, cashier.

Macon was the recipient of a handsome, new courthouse in 1870. During this year, the courthouse was moved from the old site at the foot of Mulberry Street to its present location, corner of Second and Mulberry. There was much controversy among Macon citizens regarding the move, and many heated political meetings were held. Finally, those in favor of the change were able to exert sufficient influence, and the cornerstone was laid with impressive ceremonies at which the main address was delivered by Washington Poe.

The city was realizing a slow, steady growth and development at this time in spite of the economic difficulties and the rigors of reconstruction. In 1871, the First Street Methodist Church was nearing completion after many months of work. A new bell, the largest in the city, was purchased for the new courthouse. Plans were being made for the construction of the "street railway" from the railroad depot to Tatnall Square. Construction began shortly afterward, and by September 20th, the trolley tracks had reached Cotton Avenue. On this same day, the first car arrived, and was immediately placed on the tracks. The next day, Mayor Huff and a group of local dignitaries created a sensation by riding on the "device" from Cherry Street to the State Fairgrounds, followed by a mob of small boys and dogs, much as a street parade. The editors of the Macon Telegraph and Messenger commented: "This is the greatest contribution to our city's progress possible. Reach our suburbs, and expansion will go forth".

Macon's growth is testified to by the fact that it was chosen as the site for the 1871 convention of the Georgia State Medical Association, during which Dr. C. H. Hall, one of the more prominent figures on the local scene, was elected vice-president. Also, the semi-annual report of City Council, published in August, shows returns on taxable real estate at $3,842,000; personal estate at $2,542,606; and a total of $513 in street taxes. The value of both private and public property at this time being $6,445,906. City expenditures for a six month period were reported at $124,796. Bibb County was ranked third in the state in the value of improved property, by a statement issued in September by the Comptroller-General. Improved lands in this section were valued at approximately $10.53 per acre at the time.

In the political spotlight during the latter half of 1871 was the election on July 28th of Frank M. Heath as tax collector by an overwhelming majority. The Bibb County Democratic Club convened on August 26 at the City Hall for the purpose of appointing delegates to a state senatorial convention which had been called to name a candidate for state senator from the Macon district. As a result of this convention, Thomas J. Simmons, the party nominee, was elected to the

office on September 14th by a wide margin. On the same day, Macon was honored by a visit from A. H. Colquitt, prominent figure in Georgia politics.

Entertainment was not hard to find in this day and time for social functions were many and varied. The Fourth of July holiday celebration had been resumed, and was featured with a gala picnic sponsored by the "Active Glee Croquet Club", a flourishing social organization of the day. For those who appreciated the best in musical entertainment, the Macon Silver Cornet Band was organized in early August through the generosity of Mayor Huff. And, for the thrill-seekers, the Wooten and Haight Circus created quite a stir when its balloon, piloted by the daring Monsieur Wambold, ended its performance by landing on the Second Street home of one John G. Deitz, inflicting considerable damage on the ornamentations of that gentleman's domicile. To climax the summer's social functions, the Georgia State Fair drew huge crowds on opening day, October 24th. For the next week, many thousands of feet packed hard the earth before long rows of homemade quilts, hooked rugs, sugar-cured hams, chickens, pigs, cattle, farm machinery of the latest design, and all the many other facets that compose the brilliant and sparkling gem known as the annual fair.

During the hot summer days, when Charles Reade's latest novel, "Terrible Temptation", was being read and talked about over the nation, General "Tige" Anderson, the great Confederate, visited at the well know Brown House. The cornerstone for the Masonic Lodge building on Mulberry Street was laid on August 15th, just a week before Anderson's visit. Judge George M. Logan, one of the state's more prominent jurists, died at his home in Vineville during the summer, after suffering for many weeks with "conjestion of the brain".

Two weddings of great interest took place during the latter part of the year. Robert A. Nisbet, of the family of Eugenius A. Nisbet, took Miss Florence Bloom as his wife. And, on November 8th, the Macon social following was again set a-twitter by the marriage of one Miss Fort, a local belle, to Junius Brown, son of Ex-Governor Joe Brown. The former chief executive stayed at the Brown House while in the city for the ceremony. Two prominent citizens of Macon died during the fall of the year,—H. W. Cowles, Judge of the Superior Court, and Ed Fau, proprietor of the Merchant's Exchange, one of the city's best known eating places at that time. Judge Cowles' place on the bench was taken by the Hon. C. B. Cole.

As Macon bid adieu for the old year, the editors of the Messenger said, in regard to the gradual growth of the town: "Several lots near the business portion of the city could be occupied by neat, little cottages, erected at a cost of from $2,000 to $2,500. These could be rented for $25 to $30 per month, and thus realize a handsome profit to the

owners. Will not these property owners take action to hasten the already rapid development of a flourishing community?"

Politics and Recovery

The beginning of 1872 found Macon on its way toward further recovery from the war and reconstruction. When, in January of '72 many Southerners feared the Democrats would support Grant over Greely, an editorial in the Telegraph said, "It will only prove to what straits the Southern people are reduced in these times that 'try men's souls'."[68]

At this time business was dull in Macon and vicinity, and cotton, the life blood of the community, rose steadily but slowly. W. A. Huff had been recently elected Mayor, with Clay, Ellis, Roberts, Woodliff, Russell, Wagenstien, Smith, Tinsley, Strong, Fitzgerald, and Daly, serving as aldermen. Huff was a Democrat, elected by a dangerously narrow margin over the Republican candidate. Several of the aldermen were Republicans, the most notable being Fitzgerald, the leader of one faction of the party, which was at that time divided. One of the members, Ed Woodliff, was a negro.

Slowly the Democrats of Bibb County were restoring the government from the carpetbag regime. Colonel Thomas J. Simmons a Confederate veteran, replaced T. J. Speer, a Republican, as State Senator from Bibb and adjacent counties. J. B. Ross, and C. A. Nutting, both Democrats, were elected to represent Bibb County in the State Legislature. In the state government, James M. Smith, Democrat, had replaced the hated Republican, Bullock. The Republicans, however, were by no means dead in Bibb County, as was shown by the heavy vote of the recently enfranchised negroes, and the carpetbaggers also remained to share in the spoils. To combat these influences in Macon was the Ku Klux Klan, which was led by one Horace Maynard, and was very active at that time.

1872 also saw a number of domestic improvements, most notable of which was the completion of the new County Courthouse in January. The City Council passed a resolution to seek federal funds for dredging the Ocmulgee, and the textile industry was growing slowly. A textile worker in Bibb County at this time received $1.50 per day, in sharp contrast with the present scale of $1.10 per hour. It is interesting to note that in January of '72, the Telegraph strongly condemned action by the City Council to outlaw the allowing of hogs to run wild in the main thoroughfares.

On February 7th, Hon. D. E. Butler, President of the Board of Trustees of Mercer University, delivered a speech at the breaking of dirt ceremonies for the new buildings at that school. Named for the Rev. Jesse Mercer, a Baptist minister and philanthropist, the college

68. Paper by Swain Tolbert—"Revival of the Democratic Party."

was founded at Penfield, Georgia, in 1833, where it flourished, and enjoyed the benefits of several substantial endowments. The City Council of Macon offered $125,000 and nine acres of choice lots in what is known as the Tatnall Square section, to the University if it would move to this city, and in 1871, the Trustees resolved to locate the University permanently at Macon.

Through the years, Mercer has kept pace with the growth of Macon, and boasts of one of the finest small religious colleges in the country today. The graduates of Mercer in the academic, liberal arts, education, law, theology, and pre-medical schools have asserted roles of leadership and service which can be equalled by few comparable schools. The President of Mercer when it first moved to Macon was Dr. H. H. Tucker while the present head of the Baptist school is Dr. Spright Dowell. Mercer is the oldest theological institution in the South, and the third oldest in the United States.[69]

Winter of '72 also saw formation of a farmers' club and other groups. The Ocmulgee Farmers' Club sent W. B. Lindy, J. D. Holt, and W. D. Johnson as delegates to a state-wide convention in Savannah. The University of Georgia Alumni Association met at the Macon Y.M.C.A. in March, and the keynote speaker was the Hon. James A. Nisbet, a prominent member of the Macon Bar.

On August 23, 1872, the General Assembly of Georgia passed an act creating the Board of Public Education and Orphanage of Bibb County. This act appointed the following Macon citizens charter members of the Board: W. D. Williams, L. N. C. Whittle, Joseph Clisby, R. W. Cubbedge, Emory Winship, T. C. Dempsey, Samuel Chambliss, J. W. Stubbs, John W. Burke, J. J. Gresham, Virgil Powers, and J. T. Nisbet. By virtue of the act, the Mayor of the City of Macon, the Ordinary of Bibb County, and the Judge of the Superior Court, were named as ex-officio members. This act provided that the Board would be self-perpetuating, the power of filling vacancies being left in the hands of the board. Thus, to a great extent, the element of politics was eliminated. The Board was also given the authority to levy a tax in Bibb County, subject to the approval of the Board of Commissioners, for financing the school program.

The first act of the new Board was to ratify and continue the acts and contracts of the County Board of Education. On October 11th, definite organization of the Board was agreed upon and the following officers were elected: W. D. Williams, president; Joseph Clisby, vice-president; James T. Nisbet, secretary; and R. W. Cubbedge, treasurer.

During January, 1873, B. M. Zettler was elected the first superintendent of schools. At this time, there were in operation the First Ward School in the basement of the Catholic Church on Fourth Street under J. H. Roberts and three assistants; the Second Ward School on Second

69. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.

Street under S. H. Everett and one assistant; the Fourth Ward School in St. Paul's Parish Schoolhouse on Forsyth Street under H. T. Connor and two assistants; and the East Macon School in the Central Railroad Building in East Macon under W. G. Smith and two assistants. There were two colored schools, the Cotton Avenue School in the basement of the A.M.E. Church on Cotton Avenue under Louis Williams and two assistants; and the Lewis High School on New Street, supported by the American Missionary Association and conducted by Mrs. M. E. Sands and seven assistants. There were several other schools in the suburbs and county districts. The statistics for the first year of operation were: Teachers, 43; pupils, 1516; expenditures, $21,702.15. During this year, City Council purchased the Polhill property on Orange Street, and placed it in the hands of the Board of Education. In this same year, the Central High School was opened in a building on the corner of College and Bond Streets, and the Third Ward School was also opened.[70]

The people of Macon were finding entertainment in the plays and operas at Ralston's Hall; in the circus; burlesque; and minstrel troupes; and in boat races on the Ocmulgee for sports lovers. Dan Rice's was the most notable of the circus troupes, and other traveling shows were the Oates Opera Company; and the Windham Comedy Company; Lydia Thompson, a famous actress of the times, performed in Ralston's Hall, March 3. Some of the plays featured were "The Great Sacrifice", and "The Daughter of the Regiment". A March issue of the Telegraph bemoaned the fact that a larger number of good Macon Christians had attended a burlesque show held a few days previous than they did a sermon delivered by a blind preacher in Ralston's Hall.

There were in Macon at this time three military companies—The Macon Volunteers, Floyd Rifles, and The Macon Guards. George S. Jones, a veteran of some of the bloodiest campaigns of the War Between the States, was Captain of the Macon Volunteers. L. M. Lamar was Captain of the Macon Guards, and Thomas Hardeman commanded Floyd's Rifles.

The roster of officers for the Macon Volunteers was as follows: C. M. Wiley, 1st Lieutenant; L. Ripley, 2nd Lieutenant; Benjamin C. Smith, 3rd Lieutenant; G. C. Conner, 4th Lieutenant; and S. E. Theus, 1st Sergeant. J. S. Baxter was the company surgeon, and T. W. Mangham was the secretary and treasurer. These officers were elected April 7, 1872.

Officers of Floyd's Rifles included W. H. Ross, 1st Lieutenant; G. F. Cherry, 2nd Lieutenant; and D. B. Woodruff, 1st Sergeant.

Junior officers of the Macon Guards, C. Company, Georgia Volun-

70. History Edition, Macon News, 1929.

teers as elected in April of '72 were J. H. Field, 1st Lieutenant; E. P. Taylor, 2nd Lieutenant; L. P. Askew, 3rd Lieutenant; J. A. Casey, 4th Lieutenant; C. S. Findlay, 1st Sergeant; H. J. Peter, secretary and treasurer; V. A. Menard, Quartermaster; and J. L. Harris surgeon.

S. S. Dnulap was Captain of a small Cavalry Company. As the late war had left the people very much interested in military affairs, these military units and their activities were in the limelight of public events.

The Brown House on Broadway was Macon's largest and most modern hotel at this time. Robert E. Lee, Jr., and General E. Kirby Smith late of the Army of Northern Virginia, were among the celebrities who sojourned there in '72.

Political activities prior to the County, State, and National elections of 1872 were rowdy and sometimes violent, with the Republicans split into two factions, one led by James Fitzpatrick, attacked as a carpetbagger by the public and the press, and the other radical faction led by a mulatto called Jeff Long.

The radicals, referred to by the press as Jephlongites, met May 8th in the City Hall and were reported to have remained drunk until eleven A.M. A convention of the Democrats, also held in Macon, was keynoted by ex-Senator H. V. M. Miller. Benjamin Harvey Hill was the principal speaker in a state-wide convention held in Macon, September 2. Washington Poe, a prominent lawyer, was one of the leaders of the Bibb Democrats.

Jeff Long harangued large crowds of negroes in front of the City Hall nightly urging all to pay their poll tax and vote Republican as the only way to protect their rights. On September 17, he was the alleged instigator of a riot in which a negro, who planned to vote democratic, was attacked and badly hurt.

In an election to fill the State Senate seat of T. J. Speer, the friction reached its peak. Voting booths had been segregated by city officials, but many of the carpetbaggers refused to recognize the segregation rules. A shot rang out, believed to be from the white section, quickly followed by an exchange of shots from both sections. More gunplay followed, with several negroes killed and wounded, until the special police, called out by Mayor Huff, quelled the riot. The final tabulation of the returns of the election, which was held to fill Speer's unexpired term, showed a victory for Beck, the Democratic candidate, over Republican, Green, by the close margin of 1988 to 1845 votes.

In the Mayor's race the Democrats and Fitzpatrick's Republicans nominated W. A. Huff by acclamation and won an easy victory. The aldermanic slate, which also won, included Thomas U. Conner, Baron Carter, D. M. Durrett, John W. Burke, E. J. Johnston, Christopher Burke, John G. Deitz, E. Crockett, Benjamin Burdick, J. J. Cornell, George Burdick, and R. J. Lightfoot.

An investigation of the violation at the polls was held, several persons, both white and black, were arrested, and all convicted prisoners gave bond, and were released.

James A. Nisbet, one of the city's leading citizens and business men, died February 18, 1873. He was born in Green County, December 9th, 1812, graduated from the University of Georgia, and had practiced law in Macon for a number of years. Colonel T. W. Morgan, of the Georgia Volunteers, also died in November of '73.

The organization of a State Farmers' Grange called The Patrons of Husbandry headed by Colonel A. Wyatt Aiken was completed here in April of '73. Meanwhile work at Mercer progressed tediously, several workmen being killed in accidents. Work on proposed new water works for the city began in May. The County Fair and Exposition was held in June at Central City Park, and the Georgia State Fair took place also at that locality. After action by leading citizens, who wished to make Macon the permanent location for the annual fair, Macon became the established fair grounds for the State Fair. A serious fire burned several buildings at Poplar and Plum Streets in March.

The beginning of 1874 saw Georgia and Macon engulfed in hard times and depression. The Telegraph, in its editorial columns, maintained that the recession was the direct result of the Middle Georgia farmers concentrating on growing cotton exclusively. Its columns carried descriptions of streets filled with empty wagons of farmers who had come to town to get corn, flour, meat, and other necessities. The city government was unable to meet its expenses and could not agree on whether to issue more paper currency or levy more taxes on the already over-taxed citizenry. After much deliberation the Council issued paper money, receivable for all debts to the municipal government.

A dispute then arose in May between the City Council and Mayor W. A. Huff on one side, and George W. Gustin and the County Commissioners on the other, over who should support the Bibb County Poor House and the city hospitals. After the dispute had lasted several weeks, the two bodies met together to arbitrate their differences. It was finally decided that the County Commissioners should have jurisdiction and responsibility for financing of the institutions.

A large assembly of Catholics met at St. Joseph's Church, May 1st, 1874 for the cornerstone ceremonies for Pio Nona College. The procession moved to the building grounds, near the present vicinity of Stanislaus Circle, for the ceremonies. The institution when finished, would be the third of Macon's institutions for higher education. The Reverend Dr. A. J. Battle was President of Mercer University, and Dr. E. H. Meyers was President of Wesleyan Female College. A move-

ment to establish a Public Library in Macon began in April, led by Colonel L. N. Whittle, C. A. Nutting, Mayor Huff, S. T. Coleman, and other prominent Maconites. Editorial comment in the Telegraph pointed out Macon's need for a library and urged its establishment. The Macon Volunteers celebrated their 49th anniversary parade in April, and masquerade balls and other events at Ralston's Hall highlighted the social life of Maconites. The Reverend J. W. Burke addressed a meeting of the Georgia Teachers Association which convention lasted several days at Harmonic Hall. A similar convention of the Georgia Press Association was held at the City Hall in May.

The addition of a new Company for the Macon Volunteers marked the military events. Officers for the unit, B. Company, were: George W. Findlay, Captain; Walter T. Ross, 1st Lieutenant; and Thomas L. Ross and T. E. Collins 2nd Lieutenants. George S. Jones was made Major of the Volunteers, now a battalion.

On August 4th, a new schoolhouse for South Macon was completed. It was constructed from material taken from the old Confederate States Armory Building.

In July of '74, The Freedman's Bank, established for the newly freed negroes, suspended its business and divided assets. With the exception of one or two depositors, all accounts were held by negroes, and the largest account had a balance of $6,000. A great many Macon citizens, as well as the press, believed The Freedmen Bank fraud, as it was termed, to be a deliberate defrauding of the negroes by the carpetbaggers. A large number of freedmen had deposited small amounts from their weekly savings.

Organization of the Starr Baseball Club in August was an encouragement for Macon sports lovers, while literary-minded people turned their interest toward a lecture by Bret Harte, the famous western writer, at Harmonic Hall, November 6.

Passage of the Civil Rights Bill of 1874 made Bibb Democrats more resolute to preserve their unity and keep their municipal government in the hands of native white Democrats. The radical Republicans, rapidly declining in membership, met at the City Hall and nominated James Fitzpatrick for Mayor, and Frank Disroon as their candidate for the legislature.

A Democratic Workingmen's Party had formed and hoped to elect candidates sympathetic to labor in the Democratic Primary of 1874. Five candidates planned to make the race for the Democratic nomination, but in the interest of unity three withdrew, leaving Mayor W. A. Huff and T. G. Holt the principal candidates.

When, in December, all registered Macon Democrats went to the polls to elect the party nominees for municipal and county posts, Mayor Huff received the Mayor's nomination and the following aldermanic

slate was elected: P. Peyton, E. O. Connell, R. J. Reddy, James L. Kennedy, E. Crockett, John G. McGoldrick, John Curd, T. C. Hendrix, John T. Boifeiulett, R. U. Hardeman, W. P. Goodall, Green J. Blake. For treasurer, Charles Williamson was nominated, and for clerk, John A. McManus.

For county posts, the Democrats nominated A. B. Ross, clerk of Superior Court; George F. Cherry, sheriff; Henry J. Peter, tax collector; R. J. Anderson, tax receiver; A. F. Gibson, treasurer; Thomas Butler, surveyor; and John Sessions, coroner. The elections passed off quietly without so much as a fist fight, and the Democrats won every contested office. The Republican Party was dead in Bibb County, and has remained so to this day.

On December 23, 1874, Sidney Lanier, referred to as Macon's budding young poet, gave a concert at Ralston's Hall to defray expenses for his trip to Baltimore, where he planned to accept a position as flutist for the Peabody Symphony Orchestra.

The Late 1870's

The late 1870's found Macon a city of muddy streets and Parmalee buggies. This period was then known as "hard times" but today we recall it as the "good old days". This was the Macon of the volunteer fire department, of the fifteen cent shave, and the twelve and a quarter cent cotton. But all was not care-free in the city. For many of its citizens, life itself had virtually ceased at Appomattox ten years before. The Federal occupation was still fresh in their minds, and the Confederate graves by the Ocmulgee were still heavy in their hearts.[71]

Much of the life of the period continued to revolve around the militia. The Second Georgia battalion was commanded by Colonel George S. Jones until his resignation when the duties were assumed by Major W. H. Ross. The annual battalion parades held on special occasions such as the birthdays of George Washington and Robert E. Lee were grand events and were eagerly awaited and heartily received. The Macon Volunteers, Floyd Rifles, and Macon Cadets were the most active of the military companies in the city during these years, and an invitation to their brilliant annual anniversary balls was the fond desire of almost every young lady in Central Georgia.

Volunteer firemanship took a great bit of Macon's time. The leaders of the department were C. Machold, chief; J. C. Keil, assistant chief; J. A. Rohr, assistant chief; D. D. Craig, secretary; and E. P. Stro, treasurer. There were quite a number of individual fire companies, each with its own team, engine, and distinctive uniform. Some of the names that appear frequently are "The Hook and Ladder", "Protection No. 1", "Ocmulgee No. 2", "Young America No. 3", "Mechanics

71. Paper by Usher T. Winslett, Jr.—"Macon in the Late 1870's."

No. 4", "Defiance No. 5", and "Young America No. 5". One of the finest events held each year was the annual "Fireman's Day" activities, which occurred about the middle of April. This was a day of celebration, with all Macon and many from the surrounding country turning out to pay tribute to the gallant volunteer firemen. The day began with an extravagant parade, beginning at the City Hall, winding through the city, and finally terminating in Mulberry Street. Each company, with scarlet satin shirts and fire helmets, its engine polished 'til it shined like a ruby, and its horses immaculately curried and brushed, vied for the championship. Having reached Mulberry, the contests, consisting of hose laying, engine races, and steamhead building, were staged. The winners were always treated to as much soda-water as they could drink at Roland B. Hall's drugstore.

The most elegant affair of each social season was the annual Masquerade given by the Young Men's Social Dancing Club. In 1878, this affair was led by its then president, John L. Hardeman; vice-presidents, J. F. Rodgers and F. D. Tinsley; and secretary and treasurer, John Van Syckel. The event was held at Ralston's Hall, and attended by the cream of society. At eleven o'clock, the signal for unmasking, each couple was introduced by Mayor W. A. Huff.

In January, 1876, the famous Mrs. Farley's Wax Works was presented at the residence of Mr. Asher Ayres for the benefit of the Public Library. Later, General Robert Toombs gave his "Magna Charta" speech at Ralston Hall for the same purpose. On June 30th of this year, the Public Library and Historical Society was incorporated. Among the names of the incorporators was included T. G. Holt, R. E. Park, B. M. Zettler, John P. Fort, B. C. Smith, C. E. Campbell, William V. Volger, T. O. Chestney, R. W. Jemison, A. E. Broadman, J. L. Hardeman, and W. B. Hill. The library was maintained in the building occupied by the Knights of Columbus on Mulberry Street, and for many years was the only public library in the city.

To the art lovers, Mr. Edwin Booth presented "Hamlet" at Ralston Hall before a large and appreciative audience in February, 1876. Following closely this performance was a concert at Harmonic Hall by Guiseppe Verdi, the renowned musician and composer, who wrote "Ernani", Rigoletto", and "Il Trovatore". In 1877, the Macon Harmonic Society presented the opera "Moses in Egypt", with the following local patrons of the theater participating: Mrs. Theodore Wells, Miss Jessie Hardeman, E. Van Goidtsnoven, A. L. Wood, H. Kohn, and G. W. Reynolds. Another gentleman, of slightly less artistic calibre, Josh Billings, appeared at Ralston Hall, and was well received.

An interesting and important event of the same year was the reorganization of the Macon Young Men's Christian Association. The first meeting was held on April 7th with R. F. Burden serving as temporary

chairman. Elected at this session was the following slate of officers: Walter F. Ross, president; B. F. Josey, 1st vice-president; H. T. Conner, 2nd vice-president; H. B. Davis and W. De Haven, secretary and treasurer, respectively.

Among the more exciting happenings of the time was the flood of April, 1876, which was the most devastating recorded up to that time. As one stood on the Fifth Street bridge, they might see driftwood, planks, cattle, pigs, horses, chicken coops, and even a few negro cabins being tossed in the turbulent waters and swept downstream. The lower section of East Macon was covered, and Central City Park was almost completely submerged. The water was high enough in the creeks to make bridges unsafe for train crossings, and most of the transportation was temporarily halted. A slight earthquake occurred on August 24, 1876, but the only casualties recorded were a few broken dishes. However, the shock was enough to send many a lady scurrying for her smelling salts.

The worst conflagration in the history of the city at that time was the Brown House holocaust. This fire, occurring in 1878, completely destroyed the old wooden hotel standing directly across from the depot station at Broadway and Plum, and known throughout the South for its comfort and luxury. The blaze was discovered around 2:20 A.M., and the Volunteer Fire Department immediately swung into action. Determining that the structure could not be saved, the firemen turned their efforts to rescue work, and the heroic action of Defiance Company No. 5 was all that kept the fire from spreading to the National Hotel. Though the building was completely destroyed with over $100,000 worth of damage, the only casualty was the broken leg of a man, who was struck by a falling beam.

During this period, Macon lost three of her older citizens who had played tremendously important roles in the development of the community, and, who had exerted strong influence over the conduct of the Macon bar. On January 28, 1876, Carlton B. Cole, lawyer and jurist passed away. Assuming the Superior Court Judgeship shortly after the War Between the States, he presided during the dark years when might was usually right. However, by his personal courage and legal knowledge, he took a foremost role in re-establishing law and order in this community. In addition to this, he founded a law school which did much to add to the culture and growth of the state. Later in the same year, on October 1st, the Nestor of the Macon Bar, the Hon. Washington Poe, was called to his reward. No man was closer to the pulse and heart-beat of the city than was this leader. A resolution passed by the Macon Bar following his death appropriately acknowledges his deeds: "There is no person, among the living or the dead, who has been so long and so prominently identified with the

history of our city. When he settled here, Macon was a small village. The courthouse was a rough, wooden building on Mulberry Street. The county jail was a structure of logs which occupied the site of Christ Church. Fifth Street was the fashionable residential section of the town. He saw the organization of the corporation, the laying of the cornerstone of its churches, colleges, and public institutions, the breaking of ground for its railroads, and was its Mayor, its alderman, and its attorney". The next year witnessed the passing of the third of the trio of outstanding legal minds, who had brought both the bar and the city to the forefront of state affairs. On September 28, 1877, Judge Barnard Hill passed away. He was an adopted son of the South, having been born in Massachusetts, but he spent a lifetime of leadership in private and public affairs which stamped him as one of the true loyal sons of this state.[72]

The year, 1876, was an important one for the Catholics of Macon. On February 28th, a charter was granted to the Trustees of PioNono College, which was operated by the Jesuits until 1922, when it was destroyed by fire, and the property upon which it was located sold and sub-divided into one of Macon's leading residential sections. This is now known as Stanislaus Place. During the same year, another Catholic Institution, Mt. de Sales Academy, was officially established and chartered under the laws of Georgia. The institution is owned and conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, and caters to secondary and higher education for girls. Its history dates back to 1871, when five Sisters of Mercy came to Macon, having fled from St. Augustine, Florida to escape a threatened bombardment and destruction of that city by the Federal forces during the War Between the States. In Macon, they took up their residence in the Rogers' home at the corner of Walnut and Fourth Streets, and opened a small academy. From this humble beginning, the present Mt. de Sales Academy grew into the splendid institution which it boasts today.

In 1877, a new public high school was built in the city at the corner of Spring and Pine Streets. Lumber for the new structure was taken from the old Beasley Tavern on Cotton Avenue, and the labor was paid for by voluntary contributions from the patrons of the high school.

From December 5th to 8th, 1878, the semi-centennial exercises of the Mulberry Street Methodist Church were observed. Large congregations attended the church services. Memorials of Methodism in Macon were collected, and afterwards published in special volumes by the J. W. Burke Company.

It is interesting to note that as late as February, 1879, there was a toll gate at Seven Bridges on the road to Perry and Houston County. This toll gate had been in operation for more than forty years, and a step forward in improving transportation facilities was made when

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the county purchased this link. On April 1st, 1879, the old Bibb County Academy, which was the cradle of public education in Macon, was burned.

The laying of the cornerstone of the Confederate Monument at Second and Mulberry on Memorial Day, 1878, was an outstanding event. The cornerstone contains much historical data, including a list of 327 Confederate soldiers buried in Rose Hill cemetery, and 253 buried in the old City Cemetery (later moved to Rose Hill). A complete copy of the list, with outfit and date of death, was published in the April 26, 1878 issue of the "Macon Telegraph and Messenger". Governor Colquitt's address at this ceremony was called the most spellbinding of his career, and a letter from Ex-President Jefferson Davis, read by a member of the Ladies' Memorial Association, was also touching and outstanding. The following year, on the 29th of October, 1879, the Memorial was dedicated at one of the most impressive ceremonies ever held in this city. Local military companies and others from all over the state participated in the exercises. Colonel Thomas Hardeman was the orator of the day, and was introduced by Governor Colquitt. Several salutes were fired honoring the heroes in gray to whom this memorial was dedicated. The marble statue of a Confederate soldier adorns the monument, which is thirty-seven feet in height. He represents a private in the ranks, and is facing toward his beloved "Southland". On the four corners of the square pedestal are: 1—the Coat of Arms of Georgia; 2—the arms and implements of war; 3—the Great Seal of the Confederate States of America; and 4—an inscription showing that the monument was erected in 1879 by the Ladies' Memorial Association of Macon in honor of the soldiers of Bibb County, and of all, who gave their lives to the South in the late War Between the States.

Chapter VI

ERA OF TRANSITION

1880 - 1901

In November, 1874, Bret Harte wrote of Macon: "But my dominant impression—above everything—is one of sadness . . . The wasted, ill-kept fields, the scattered negro cabins, the decaying and fallen plantations, the badly dressed people and hopeless negro, the dumb, ill-regulated, but earnest striving of the best people for a better state of things . . . all are pathetic and form a picture over which this tender sky and this delicious atmosphere hang with an irony that is hopeless and cruel. On the heights around are still standing some of the lordly houses of the great slave-owners. They are often very beautifully equipped and have a certain broad ease and munificence. (Everything is broad here. The streets are like public squares, the houses are low and large . . .). They all—even those inhabited and kept up—have a *triste* look . . . With a kind of nervous eagerness the proudest of these sad, strange people try to impress you with an idea of their regeneration . . . but the cemetery seems to cover the whole town."[1]

In the last two decades of the nineteenth century Macon achieved the regeneration which Bret Harte thus disparaged. Its industries were expanded, the power of an oppressive political element was broken, an energetic program of improvement was undertaken, and its homes once more glowed with lavish entertainment.

SECTION I — BUSINESS

A.—*Merchandising, Agricultural, and Industrial.*

1—Agrarian and Trade Era

1880 - 1887

During the first eight years of this period Macon business still centered around agricultural and mercantile interests. Its growth, steady rather than spectacular, was seen in the deepening of trade, the establishing of new firms, and the swinging upward of real estate values.

1. The Letters of Bret Harte, edited by Geoffrey B. Harte, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1926, pp. 42, ff.

Macon pointed with pride to her "Merchant Princes", men who a few years before 1880 had started business with small holdings and who at that time occupied handsome business establishments, annually handled goods amounting to $6,000,000, and owned $2,500,000 in personal property. Such were Messrs. S. R. Jaques, M. Nussbaum, H. T. Johnson, James H. Campbell, Joseph Dannenberg, S. T. Coleman, S. Waxelbaum, S. S. Dunlap, H. J. Lamar, A. B. Small, C. H. Rogers, W. R. Rogers, T. C. Burke, A. Gibson, and W. Wolff. The following table shows Macon's chief merchandising firms and the volume of business in the opening year of this period:

Firm	*Sales*	*Employees*	*Drummers*
S. T. Coleman & Co.	$1,000,000	28	6
W. A. Juhan & Co.	150,000	25	
S. Waxelbaum & Co.	1,000,000	40	8
Singleton & Hunt	400,000	12	4
J. C. Bannon & Co.	75,000	7	
J. W. Price & Co.	125,000	12	
John Rooney	40,000	3	
Nussbaum & Dannenberg	1,000,000	22	5
Gus Nussbaum	75,000	8	
D. J. Baer	150,000	6	
W. A. Doody	75,000	6	
Jacob Siesel	30,000	3	
Miz & Kirtland	75,000	6	
E. P. Strong	60,000	4	
H. Schall & Bro.	35,000	9	
J. Valentino	40,000	7	
Other houses	150,000	15	
Total	$4,480,000	213	23

Prosperity can be detected from the large number of firms that were expanding and by new businesses. Some of these were: Nussbaum and Dannenberg (new building on the corner of Third and Mulberry); Horne's Real Estate and Insurance Company (64 Mulberry Street); English, Huguenin & Company; English, Plant & Huguenin (cotton warehouse and cotton commission firms); Lamar, Rankin & Lamar (new store on Cherry Street); Singleton, Hunt & Company (shoe firm on Cherry Street); E. Crockett & Sons (foundry on Fourth Street); Collins Manufacturing Company; J. H. Hertz (shirt factory); J. P. Stevens (jewelry); Rosenfeld and Lilienthal (in the Waxelbaum building and Georgia's only exclusively wholesale hat business); Winship and Schofield Clothing Factory; Middle Georgia Land, Lumber, and Improvement Company; Macon Ice Factory; and Macon Fire Insurance Company.



Business Firms

All pictures in this chapter are reprints from Souvenir of Macon, published by Ward Brothers, Cleveland, Ohio, in 1889.

Several organizations had for their chief purpose the promotion of business. Most influential of these was the Board of Trade and its affiliated companies. Another stimulus to trade was felt in March, 1880, when the Young Men's Saving and Loan Association applied for a charter and subsequently organized with the following officers: president, J. W. Cabaniss; directors, W. H. Burden, H. B. Davis, George H. Plant, H. J. Lamar, Jr., W. W. Collins, and Willis F. Price.

The first actual count of trade and industries was made in 1880 and revealed a volume of business of $20,000,000. The output of Macon's few factories at this time was $3,000,000. Further indication of prosperity was seen in the fact that in 1881 the city, carrying a municipal debt of $750,000, could nevertheless sell its bonds in the market for 93 cents. Tax returns for the same year (1881) showed an increase of $157,425 in the value of all taxable property. From 1881 to 1886 Macon spent nearly $3,000,000 on improvements.

Not all the trends of these years were good. During 1883 Macon suffered two business setbacks: the loss of the Southern Steamship and Railway Association's office and continued decline in cotton manu-

facturing. The Bibb Mills cleared, in 1882, $22,000 less than in 1881 in spite of an increased investment of $50,000. This decline led to much discussion of probable causes and remedies. In December of 1882 a circular, issued by J. F. Hanson, agent for the Bibb Manufacturing Company, called Southern cotton manufacturers and spinners to convene in Atlanta. At that time (January 16, 1883) the Southern Cotton Manufacturers' Association was organized, and Mr. Hanson, of Macon, was elected president. Not only the members of this association, but most business men felt that the South enjoyed overwhelming advantages in raw materials, climate, labor, and location, which would inevitably give her leadership in cotton manufacturing. Mr. Hanson maintained that such advantages would never *per se* give the South superiority over New England with its fifty years' experience, perfect organization, thorough understanding of markets, and knowledge of machinery. In his affiliation with the Association and, later, as owner of *The Telegraph and Messenger,* Mr. Hanson staunchly urged a more realistic approach to the problem of cotton manufacturing. He continually advocated, and was later instrumental in securing, a state technological school and a revolutionizing of the social sentiment in the South which demeaned mill labor.

Despite Mr. Hanson's efforts to reduce production, the Bibb Mills continued in 1884 and 1885 to work full force, until the market was glutted. Steadily Macon cotton receipts decreased. Macon's cotton factors felt that the steady decline in cotton receipts was due to the city's failure to provide a cotton compress. A compress would add from 10,000 to 25,000 bales to the 60,000 that Macon was then handling and would, in addition, save the fees that were going to Rome, Atlanta, and Savannah. A mass meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a Compress Company. Messrs. Hitt, Burden, and Horne were appointed to canvass the city for $50,000. As a result of this and later promotion schemes, three cotton compresses were built here.

Continued advocacy of diversification had resulted in unbalanced enthusiasm for truck farming, and many Bibb farmers suffered heavy losses in 1884 and 1885 because of over-production. For these losses the farmers blamed first the railroads and then the wholesaling establishments.

2.—Industrial Growth

(1887 to March, 1891)

The years from 1887 to 1891 were marked by continued increase in trade and a remarkable growth in manufactures. In 1887 there was an increase of 50 per cent in dry goods trade, 25 per cent in groceries, 37 per cent in hardware, 33 per cent in liquors, and 25 per cent in other lines. Macon had one national and three state banks with a com-

bined capital of $1,100,000; two cotton mills; five foundries; two furniture factories; six planing mills and sash factories; the car shops of three railroads; and eight railroads, with sixty trains arriving and departing daily. The city was shipping annually 67,000 bales of cotton and 150,000 hides.

Not only in trade but also in other fields prosperity was felt. In 1887 there was a fever of activity in real estate sales and in building. Syndicates were formed for the development of the Rutherford property on Houston Road, the Tyndall property in Huguenin Heights, and the Crump property beyond Vineville. Total growth of city values for this year was $1,000,000, and Macon gained 18 per cent on its whole capital. The increase in value of the county's whole property was $580,127. By the following year Macon's banking capital had increased to $2,000,000, and her business failures were lower than the national average, which was itself unusually low.

A business summary for 1888 revealed that Macon received and distributed more loaded freight cars than any Georgia city, that her dry goods business approached $3,000,000, her grocery business $5,000,000, and that her entire wholesale trade was $17,000,000.

Despite such flourishing business, many leaders felt that the city had not yet awakened to its industrial potentialities. Business men repeatedly pointed out that, rich in clay deposits, Macon had no pottery factories; with the Ocmulgee flats abounding in twenty-nine varieties of hard wood, Macon had no furniture, tub, barrel, or box factories. The newspapers advertised through many articles and editorials Macon's industrial advantages: favorable location, climate, raw materials, railroads, and dormant water power. Finally an intensive campaign to secure "foreign capital" for Macon factories resulted. In 1888 the Board of Trade called a series of mass meetings to organize the campaign. A Bureau of Information was formed. Its primary purpose was to make a full survey of Macon businesses and industrial potentialities. This information was later published in pamphlet form and distributed throughout the nation.

No individual did more during this period to promote Macon's industrial growth than Mr. Henry Horne. For several years he had been persistently advocating industrialization. On his own initiative he spent a month in New York persuading New York capitalists to invest in Macon factories. To the surprise of Macon people, a long account of Macon appeared in *The New York World,* and it is believed that Mr. Horne paid $2,000 for its publication.

These projects bore rich fruit in the establishing of new industrial firms. Some of the more important ones were: the Macon Agricultural Works; Davenport Chemical Company; Bone Brick and Tile Company; J. G. Ruan and Company (brick); Stubbs and Adams (candy

factory); Eureka Soap and Potash Works; Central Railroad Cotton Compress; the Palmer Manufacturing Company (barrels and buckets); the Manchester Manufacturing Company (a cotton yarn factory organized by J. F. Crutchfield, J. D. Hough, Ambrose Crutchfield, and J. W. Cabaniss); the Macon Brewery (secured by Thomas W. Troy); the Macon Terra Cotta Works; the Georgia Hosiery Company; Swift Packing Company (meat packing warehouse and distributing depot); Planters' Oil, Guano, and Ice Company; the Georgia Chemical Works (match factory); the City Savings Bank; Ammons Cotton Chopper; Central Georgia Fruit Exchange; Taylor Brothers and Hall (grist mill and elevator); Bibb Manufacturing (another knitting mill); the Union Savings Bank and Trust Company; Cotton Compress (the largest in Georgia, and built on the Southern track in South Macon by the Crutchfield brothers, J. D. Hough, J. Lane, and H. J. Lamar, Jr.); Georgia Southern and Florida Machine Shops and Roundhouse; the Macon and Savannah Construction Company (representing a capital of $1,000,000 and organized to build the Macon and Atlanta railroad to Florida) and a canning factory, projected by Judge C. J. Harris.

In October of 1890 the Board of Trade reported on the industrial growth during the two years of its intensive campaign. The total volume of business for 1890 showed $45,441,650 in eighty-six classes of business. Cotton warehouse receipts averaged 63,000 bales, which sold for $2,922,500. The amount spent on building was $1,300,000. The increase in tax assessments was $479,689 with an increase of $1,000,000 in returns for the two years.

Since 1880 Macon had added 110 factories, a record in Georgia second only to Augusta's. She had increased her manufacturing establishments 815 per cent, her capital investments 454 per cent, her employees 172 per cent, her paid wages 260 per cent, her cost of materials 170 per cent, and the value of her products 188 per cent. The output of her factories had nearly trebled. New railroads had been constructed.[2]

It was believed that Macon's banking facilities had not kept pace with this impressive growth; and Mr. L. P. Hillyer with Messrs. S. R. Jaques, J. F. Hanson, and W. B. Sparks undertook to raise $500,000 capital for the American National Bank of Macon. Mr. Hillyer pledged to secure three-fifths of the required amount from outside capitalists with the other parties securing the balance from Macon. This bank opened for business April 10, 1891, with the following officers: president, Mr. William H. Burden; vice-president, Mr. James D. Stetson; cashier, Mr. L. P. Hillyer.

The climax of Macon's era of prosperity was reached in February

2. See section on railroads in next topic.

of 1891, when Mr. W. B. Sparks, president of the Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad and of the Macon Construction Company, concluded one of the biggest railroad deals in Macon's history — the lease of the G.S.&F. to the Seaboard Air Line.[3] A phenomenal soaring of the stocks of the Macon Construction Company immediately resulted, and the Macon newspapers announced in banner streamers: "A million made in Macon in one day", elaborating with a complete list of the largest stockholders with their profits.[4] In less than thirty days Mr. John M. Robinson, of the Seaboard, had decided not to lease the G.S.&F.; the bubble had burst; and application was made for a receivership for the Macon Construction Company. The boom was over.

3—Depression
March, 1891 - 1896

News of the Macon Construction Company receivership, following several other failures in Macon and knowledge of shaky conditions in the North, alarmed Macon people. On March 11th there was a run on the Capital Bank, and within two hours $25,000 had been withdrawn. At eleven o'clock the directors closed the bank and appointed Mr. W. W. Collins, vice-president, to act until a receiver was appointed by the court. Judge Miller later appointed Major N. M. Hodgkins temporary receiver, and on March 25th Mr. Miller Gordon permanent receiver.

Macon received another jolt on April 1st, when Nussbaum's wholesale dry goods company failed. Mr. Nussbaum, one of Macon's most public-spirited merchants, had invested heavily in the Georgia Southern and Florida stock, and, although he sold his handsome home on College Street in an effort to meet his obligations, he still was not able to avoid ruin.

Newspapers tried to bolster confidence by publishing statistics to show increase in tax returns, in building expenditures, and in the reduction of debt. But banks were forced to a cautious policy and many firms were placed in strained circumstances. Macon was reminded that its location was still good, that its merchants and manuturers were still enterprising, that its trains on twelve railroads still ran daily loaded with freight and passengers, that its factories were taxed to the utmost, that its wholesale trade was being pushed into new territory, that its real estate was stable, that its banking capital was being increased, and that its population was growing. But business continued to drag.

Occasionally there would be some activity, such as the sale of the Hotel Lanier for $70,000 to a Macon Syndicate (Messrs. H. S. Morse,

3. See topic on railroads.
4. The Macon Telegraph, Feb. 20, 1891.

I. D. Crawford, B. W. Sperry, W. B. Strong, Sam Altmayer, and Ike Flateau). More typical was the closing by the sheriff of A. Gibian and Company, a large wholesale liquor and tobacco establishment, and the appointment of a receiver for the Planters' Oil, Guano and Ice Company. In December over 300 men were put out of work by the reduction of hours and the closing of railroad shops.

Failures continued through 1892 and 1893. On November 21st temporary receivers were appointed for the Telegraph Printing Company, upon petition of its creditors. Mr. Horne and Mr. A. A. Allen were put in charge of the paper, and, upon order of the court, it was reduced to half its former size and limited to four pages. In March it was bought at public outcry by Mr. T. J. Carling for $16,500 and placed in receivership. Messrs. Horne and Allen were appointed permanent receivers. Associated with them were Mr. A. E. Seifert and Mr. W. G. F. Price.

Toward the last of 1892 and in the early months of 1893 a few encouraging signs were observed. The Georgia Mills and Elevator Company applied for a charter with a capital stock of $100,000. The American Investment Company declared a 25 per cent dividend. Bellevue real estate was booming, and a Bellevue Canning Factory was organized. The Equitable Building and Loan Association and the Mammouth Variety Works were other new business firms. To further encourage business, the *Telegraph* published a series of articles on Macon's self-made men. Among those sketched were: Mr. Richard F. Burden, Mr. Henry Horne, Mr. James D. Hough, Mr. John C. Eads, Mr. Joseph N. Neel, and Mr. Aleck Block.

Despite such bolstering tactics business remained dull. In August, 1893, the Bibb Mills closed for ten days, throwing 600 people out of work. Cotton dealers feared that the $1,500,000 required to handle Macon's 50,000 bales of cotton would not be available, and bankers agreed to take cotton in payment of debts. The Board of Trade asked the banks to issue certificates in order to secure money for moving the cotton, and in September Macon certificates were released by Mr. J. W. Cabaniss. With this expedient Macon felt that the depression's nadir had been reached.

Very soon after this action, the Bibb Mills opened on half time. New York bankers notified Macon bankers that they could have all the currency needed for moving the cotton at par and without the premium. Again people were hopeful of recovery. But failures continued to alternate with new businesses. Among the failures were: Macon Hardware Company, J. W. Burke Company, *The Macon News*; and among the new or expanding firms were: Payne-Willingham Furniture Company, Paper Box Factory (secured by the Bureau

of Information), and the Georgia Cotton Seed Oil Mills, of which Mr. Wallace McCaw was president.

In March, 1894, the Bibb Mills went back on full time. "Major" J. F. Hanson addressed the citizens at the Academy of Music on "The Crisis; Its Causes and Remedies." President Smith, of the Bureau of Information, distributed a new book describing Macon's commercial advantages. Mr. Alex E. Harris established on Fourth Street a large wholesale dry goods house. The Exchange Bank announced a surplus of $150,000. Messrs. E. Y. Mallory and J. J. Cobb organized a Dime Saving Bank. Macon warehouses celebrated the biggest cotton season in years by giving the farmers a great feast. But at the same time that such events seemed to indicate a lifting of the depression, many other firms were ordered into receiverships or assigneeships; Bibb Mill Number One returned to half time; and county tax returns decreased $1,431,982. This was one of the worst business years seen in Macon since the war.

Another sign of hard times was seen at the beginning of 1895 when City Council voted to reduce salaries and to increase license fees. W. J. Juhan, S. and J. Waxelbaum, and John C. Holmes failed. County tax returns decreased $500,000. Later in the year business in some fields improved. A state Manufacturers' Association was organized at the suggestion of Mr. Hanson, who was elected president. The American Fertilizer Company, under the presidency of Mr. Mitchell Rodgers, established a factory in South Macon on the Southwestern Railroad line. The Young Men's Business League was formed with the following officers: Mr. J. W. Cabaniss, president; Messrs. R. H. Plant, A. A. Allen, Alex Block, O. P. Willingham, and William McEwen Johnson, vice-presidents; Messrs. Joseph Neel, Clem Phillips, Ned Willingham, Sam Altmayer, Nick Block, Floyd Schofield, Ed Artope, Tom Loyless, Basil Wise, Ed Burke, Lewis Harris, Gray Goodwyn, B. W. Sperry, C. T. Garden, Mannie Waxelbaum, Marion Harris, Will Goodyear, and George Duncan, directors. This organization, with a membership of 200, was influential in restoring Macon's business. In the spring a great peach carnival was planned, with Mr. George Duncan in charge. In June prices began to rise; in August Central workers were put back on full time; in September the Southern Phosphate Works re-opened. October reports showed that R. C. Wilder Sons and Company, Bedingfield Brothers, and Mrs. S. T. Coleman were engaged in building programs which aggregated $100,000. The Georgia Fruit Growers Exchange established headquarters in Macon.

The evasive signs of recovery continued playing hide and seek during 1896. One of Council's first acts was to encourage manufacturing interests by exempting all industries from taxation. The Chamber of Commerce established a freight bureau, and the Fine Arts Glass and

Decorating Company was granted a charter with stock of $100,000. Mr. T. D. Tinsley, receiver for the Macon Gas Light and Water Company, submitted a report which showed the sound condition of that company. Valuable kaolin beds were discovered around Macon by Mr. George E. Gossler, of Philadelphia. Mr. C. B. Willingham stated in October that cotton receipts here were heavier than in any other season. But at no time had business that involved time or credit been at a greater standstill. Bibb's tax returns showed a decreased evaluation of $16,134,684. Recovery was further delayed by the free silver issue of the presidential campaign. With the election of McKinley in November, business men expected recovery.

4—Recovery

1897 - 1900

The recovery which had been so long anticipated began in 1897. Macon banks and the Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad declared big dividends. Three new brick stores were built on Cherry Street—Doody's, C. E. Campbell's, and Mrs. Cane's. Other new and expanding firms were: C. A. Joyce Cigar Company; Mallory Brothers and Company (foundry and machine works); Stevens and Company (pottery); B. E. Willingham Plow Company; Central Railroad Shops; Bibb Manufacturing Company (dyeing division); Central City Ice Works; Schofield, Mallory, and Brothers; Winn-Johnson Company; G. Bernd and Company; C. H. Weeks Manufacturing Company; Southern Phosphate Works; the Southern Bell Telephone Company; and the Quincy Granite Company.

Macon also took pride in the national recognition achieved by two of her business men. Mr. J. F. Hanson, along with Andrew Carnegie, Cornelius Bliss, and other famous capitalists, was one of the incorporators of the International American Bank, formed to facilitate business between our country and Latin America. Mr. Llewellyn P. Hillyer, cashier of the American National Bank at Macon, won national admiration by his address before the national convention of bankers at Detroit.

Although the upward trend was undeniable, some business firms were still having difficulties. The Progress Loan, Improvement, and Manufacturing Company went into liquidation, and its prominent officers were charged with manipulation. Upon investigation, some of the charges were withdrawn. On December 5th the spectacular career of the Macon Construction Company ended with the commission's report of $6,000 assets and $1,212,741.22 debts. This report was a grim reminder to Macon men, who remembered when this company's stock was sought for $40,000 a share when its par value was $10,000. No

other Macon firm had enjoyed such wild prosperity; nor had any fallen so suddenly or so completely.

Business in Macon did not boom during 1898, but was steadily improving. Bank clearings showed a stable prosperity — $32,147,000 for the year and a monthly average of over $2,000,000. This exceeded the clearings of Jacksonville, Florida; Akron, Ohio; Springfield, Ohio, and many other comparable cities. No city in the South was on a more solid financial basis than was Macon.

In January, 1899, Mr. Payne severed his connection with Mr. Willingham to affiliate with northern capitalists, and Messrs. C. B. and B. E. Willingham established Macon's fifth large cotton mill. Located in Vineville, it represented an investment of $500,000. It was managed by Mr. Broadus Willingham. In February another cotton mill was projected at Juliette by Dr. W. P. Glover; and in August Messrs. J. W. Cabaniss, Samuel Mayer, N. M. Block, H. J. Lamar, and G. L. Snowden with a capital of $100,000 organized the Ocmulgee Cotton Mills.

The G.S.&F. Railroad shops were operating once more on full time. A home building program of $82,129 was undertaken in 1898. In this same year Mr. J. M. Lewis, of Roberta, grew 150 bales of cotton. These he loaded on fifty wagons, hired a brass band, and headed the procession to Macon, depositing the harvest at Mayer and Watts warehouse.

B—*Railroads*

1.—Importance to Macon's Business

Closely allied with Macon business life were its railroads. Although during this period the people found in railroad policies some cause for dissatisfaction, their antagonism softened and their co-operation grew closer. Complaining bitterly of discriminatory freight rates and of monopolistic combinations, they nevertheless acknowledged that upon these systems more than any other single factor depended Macon's prosperity. Consequently, the years from 1880 to 1901 were marked by such expansion and improvement as had not been felt since the first two decades of the city's history.

In 1880 Macon was the central point in all those systems of railway and steamship lines which connected the Western marts with the South Atlantic ports and was on the line of the great North and South roads. It was the great distributing point of Georgia. More railroads centered here than in any Georgia city. Six were in operation, one under construction, and one projected. In 1881 forty-nine trains arrived and departed daily between 5 A.M. and 9 P.M. with twenty-one trains passing under the front arch of the depot. An interesting reflection of the city's dependence on railroads is seen in the vast im-

portance attached to all news concerning any phase of railroad activity. No issue of the newspaper failed to carry rumored deals. The presence in town of a railroad official, the visit of a magnate, the conference of capitalists, the likelihood of a survey—all gave rise to orgies of speculation.

2.—The Georgia State Railroad Commission

The laws which established the Georgia Railroad Commission grew out of fancied and real injustices and illiberality on the part of the railroads. A general prejudice had developed, which politicians seized upon and used to place the railroads beyond the control of their owners. Soon after its establishment, Macon business men began opposing the Commission. In August, 1880, Mr. N. E. Harris, representing prominent business men whose wealth aggregated over $5,000,000, petitioned and obtained from the commission a change in its rule governing railroads that entered Macon. The new law, making every road leading into Macon a separate line, gave the Central road power to establish new rates, greatly extended Macon's trade territory, and gave the city the advantage of being able to compete with other sections in cotton prices.

The era of industrial growth which opened in 1888 gave promise of railroad expansion, and Macon capitalists believed that the Commission's oppressive rule was a hindrance to this expansion. For three years *The Macon Telegraph* had advocated amending the laws governing the Commission, maintaining that its unlimited control closed Georgia to outside capital. "Railroad building in Georgia — as an enterprise and investment — ceased when the present Railroad Commission came into being. Those directly interested may furnish money and labor to construct short lines greatly needed, but the far-seeing capitalists decline to lend money to the people of Georgia upon the personal pledge of three men. It (the Commission) has supreme power to enforce rates that determine the earnings of our railroads. There is no appeal from its edicts. The railroads of Georgia are at its mercy."[5] During the first five years when the Commission's arbitrary rule was in force, the railroad development of other Southern states exceeded that of Georgia by 13 per cent.

Dissatisfaction, first expressed by *The Telegraph and Messenger,* later became state-wide, and in 1885 a legislative committee to study the Commission and to suggest amendments was appointed. On September 19th the State Senate passed a bill which provided for the return of the railroads' management to their owners. On September 25th the merchants of Macon petitioned the Legislature to pass this or some other law restricting the Commission's power. In October the

5. The Macon Telegraph and Messenger, June 19, 1884.

bill was defeated in the lower house, and the Commission continued in control.

3—Railroad Expansion

a.—sales, extensions and improvements

Great interest was felt in Macon in the sale of the lease of the Macon and Brunswick Railroad, which occurred January 14, 1880, with Mr. Hoke Smith, of Atlanta, acting as auctioneer. The road was "knocked off" to Mr. J. M. Couper, of Brunswick, for $194,000. Associated with Mr. Couper in the deal were Messrs. George H. Hazlehurst, A. J. Lane, Chauncey Vibbard, and others. Heading the company was Mr. R. T. Wilson, a New York millionaire. Complications arose when Mr. Vibbard was refused promised backing. He, with Mr. Hazlehurst and "Col." Lane, went to New York to secure capital, but their efforts failed. Further difficulties resulted from the dispatch sent by Mr. Wilson to Governor Colquitt, in which the New York capitalist demanded that the governor sign a warranty title against all claims upon the $600,000 mortgage bonds. Governor Colquitt, despite the requests of such Macon leaders as Mr. A. O. Bacon, Mr. C. J. Harris, and "Col." Whittle, maintained that such action was beyond his power. The threatened abortion of the lease distressed Macon business men, who coveted the extensions that had been proposed by the lessees. Finally, in February, the terms of the contract for the sale were agreed upon by Mr. Wilson, his associates, and Governor Colquitt. On February 29th the sale was completed and the deed turned over to Couper, Hazlehurst, Lane, Wilson and Company.

In October, 1880, engineering parties arrived to begin surveys for the proposed extension to Covington. The extension was delayed the following year by the complaints of Macon citizens who objected to the right of way through Rose Hill Cemetery. In November, 1881, the Cincinnati and Georgia Company, of which E. W. Cole was president, announced plans for a road from Macon to Rome via Atlanta.

The railroads were constantly improving their shops. In 1881 Mr. R. T. Wilson announced that the Macon and Brunswick would spend about $100,000 on depot and other facilities, although work on their Covington extension was still delayed. In the same year, the Central announced an additional building for the construction and furnishing of its cars. On October 8, 1882, the East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia announced the opening of a new line from Macon to Rome and Chattanooga, and in Macon the improvement of tracks, platforms, and cotton warehouses.

b.—the central

On August 10, 1882, news reached Macon from Saratoga, New York

of the sudden death of Mr. Wm. M. Wadley, of Bolingbroke. Not only Macon, but all Georgia was shocked by the death of this self-made man, who had led the Central safely through so many crises. It was Mr. Wadley who had initiated the road's policy of expansion; he who had secured additional branches and connecting lines; and he who had added the steamship line. Bitterly and long he had fought to keep the road out of the hands of speculators and syndicates in order to preserve it for Georgia business and Georgia stockholders. "Every bar of iron nailed upon the breast of Georgia is a monument to his foresight and industry; every engine a banner inscribed with his fame", lamented the press.[6]

Central employees, wishing to erect an appropriate memorial to this great leader, planned a bronze statue of heroic size. Mr. W. F. Shell was chairman and Mr. A. C. Knopp secretary of the local board to secure subscriptions and make arrangements. A committee composed of Messrs. Horne, Cox, and Payton was appointed by Council to confer with the Central board concerning a site. On July 12th a plot sixty feet square at Mulberry and Third was given for the memorial. By February 20, 1886, the statue was completed and fenced in.[7]

Not only was Mr. Wadley's death a grief to the city, but it deepened the division in the Central's board of directors. Both Mr. Wadley and Mr. W. G. Raoul, vice-president, had belonged to a small minority of the old board of directors who were retained when the Alexander party succeeded to power on January 1, 1882. The issue between the two factions—re-opened in the 1883 election of directors—was a question of policy in management, but the strife agitated all railroad and financial circles. On the Raoul ticket was one Macon man — J. J. Gresham; and on the E. P. Alexander ticket one — W. H. Johnson. Mr. Raoul succeeded Mr. Alexander as president. Most Macon men felt that it was a wise choice. Mr. Raoul served until 1887, when Mr. Alexander was again elected, this time by a syndicate which had bought a majority of the Central stock.

4—New Roads

a.—THE MACON AND COVINGTON

No railroad projected from Macon encountered so many difficulties as the Macon and Covington. On September 23, 1885, City Council granted this company right of way privileges into the city through Flanders Alley with right to cross the river and have access to the city at any point between the city bridge and First Street. Council also promised the road as much land as was needed for shops and depot. "Col." L. F. Livingston, president, contracted to secure all but $200,000

6. The Macon Telegraph and Messenger, August 11, 1882.
7. Some people complained of the cost—$14,000, which represented 10 per cent of one month's payroll. But most citizens praised the committee for its efficiency and economy.

of the required capital and asked Macon to raise $100,000. The Board of Trade promised to secure $50,000 and appointed a committee to obtain subscriptions. Because of a lack of faith in Mr. Livingston and because the Legislature had failed to limit the Commission's power, local capitalists were apathetic. Not until November did the committee succeed in raising the $50,000. Work on the road began in January of the following year.

Delay was again caused when the road and the city could not agree on their contract. At length a new contract was drawn by Mr. N. E. Harris and Mr. Washington Dessau, by which the road agreed to pay Macon $4,466.66 and thereafter $1,000 a year. It was signed March 19th, and, although Macon was accused by the road's officials of being antagonistic, work proceeded at a satisfactory pace. In July the Macon and Covington Railroad Company was re-organized with Mr. Douglass Green, of New York, replacing Mr. Livingston as president. On September 7th the new road made its trial trip of fourteen miles. Mr. Machen was given the contract for completing the road.

With this line partially complete, Macon boasted the following railroads: "Central from Savannah, Milledgeville branch, Millen to Augusta, Eatonton branch, Southwestern branches; Upson; Georgia to the line and branches; Wrightsville and Tennille; Dublin and Wrightsville; Buena Vista and Ellaville; Columbus and Rome to the line; Macon and Brunswick (East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia); East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia to the line; Hawkinsville branch; Savannah, Florida, and Western, Brunswick and Western; Macon and Covington."[8]

In December the Macon and Covington secured use of the Central's line into Macon and its terminal facilities. In the same month it announced its plan for an extension into Florida. Other Macon parties, interested in another projected Florida line[9] protested vehemently and sought to restrain the company by blocking the Legislature's confirmation of its charter and by filing an injunction against them. Mr. Machen, weary of Macon's opposition, published his intention of deflecting the road from Macon and making Atlanta the terminus. This led to a mass meeting called by the Board of Trade. Resolutions endorsing the Macon and Covington, expressing confidence in Mr. Machen, regretting past difficulties, and pledging the city's support were passed. The Knights of Labor and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers took similar action. When Judge Simmons ruled on the injunction case (G.S.&F. vs. Macon and Covington), he warned the Georgia Southern and Florida that they did not possess a monopoly to Florida, but enjoined the Macon and Covington to cease work on their extension until their charter had been perfected.

8. The Macon Telegraph, October 7, 1886—quoting Poor's Railroad Manual for 1886.
9. See following topic on the G.S.&F.

Meanwhile work on the original road continued and its completion to Monticello was celebrated on June 3rd with a barbecue given by Jasper County to Macon. The forty-five mile run from Macon was made in one hour and thirty minutes. Work was halted for some time at Monticello for lack of funds, and in the early fall a receiver was appointed. In January of 1887 a settlement with the creditors was made in an effort to take the road out of the courts. The settlement was blocked by another injunction, filed by the attorneys for the creditors. In February this injunction was dissolved and a permanent receiver denied. That the road was ever completed and that the debt was removed were due to the perseverance of Mr. Machen. The first train from Macon to Madison ran April 23rd, carrying a party made up of Messrs. B. W. Frobel, A. J. McEvoy, H. S. Morse, Thomas Hardeman, Mayor Price, the aldermen, and many Macon leaders. In September another injunction against the road and Mr. Machen was filed; this one by the widow of the late Mr. Frobel, general manager and engineer.

The road was completed to Covington December 3, 1888, and on January 19, 1889, was formally opened for freight and passenger business. Mr. Machen said that during his connection with the enterprise 284 law suits and sixty-two injunctions had been filed against the road. Nor did the road's difficulties end with its completion. Ordered into the hands of a receiver again in September, 1890, it forfeited the eight acres given by the city in 1886 because of failure to utilize the land. Finally, in 1891, the ill-fated road was absorbed by the Richmond and Danville and Central combination.

b.—SAVANNAH AND BIRMINGHAM LINES

At the same time that the Macon and Covington was under construction, several roads to Savannah and Birmingham were proposed. Chief among these were the Macon, LaGrange, and Birmingham; the Savannah, Dublin, and Western; the Macon and Birmingham; and the Macon and Dublin. A direct line to Birmingham would save seventy miles and enable Macon to "lay down" coal for $1.25 per ton freight. With cheaper coal and iron, Macon business men hoped for a great increase in manufacturing.

As early as March of 1882 announcement of preliminary surveys for the Macon, LaGrange, and Birmingham were made. The subscription list had reached $50,000, but the Board of Trade called a mass meeting to secure further support. Mr. S. T. Coleman, presiding officer, appointed Messrs. A. B. Small, J. F. Hanson, A. E. Boardman, N. M. Solomon, and Robert E. Park to confer with President McFarland on terms. Reminding his audience of the liberal contributions Macon had made to earlier roads, Mr. Coleman asked Macon to raise $120,000.

Another line under construction to Savannah at this time was the Savannah, Dublin, and Western, headed by President Green, of the Macon and Covington. The entire line was to be located to Macon, but the directors expected Macon citizens to assume responsibility for the road from Jeffersonville into the city. On October 3, 1886, the United States Railroad Construction Company, of New York, signed a contract to build and equip the Savannah, Dublin, and Western from Savannah to Macon within the next eight months. The branch from Macon to Americus — ninety miles — would be completed within fourteen months, at which time the whole system would be in operation. This line planned to connect with the Macon, LaGrange, and Birmingham or to build its own road to Birmingham.

Organized in 1885 by citizens of Laurens and Twiggs counties, the Macon and Dublin Railroad in February of 1888 asked Macon for right of way and terminal facilities and urged the support of Macon citizens. On April 14, 1888, this company formed a coalition with another Birmingham line, the Birmingham and Atlantic Airline Railroad Company. Mr. H. S. Morse, of Macon, was prominently identified with this, Macon's tenth railroad. By July 17, 1891, the Macon and Dublin was hauling freight. In January, 1892, it announced plans for an extension to Savannah.

C.—FLORIDA AND ALLIED LINES

During this period no more important phase of railroad history is to be found than in the development of transportation lines between Macon and Florida. Barred from extensive trade in Florida vegetables and fruits by exorbitant freight rates, long schedules, and awkward transfers, Macon business men had for many years looked to the opening of this rich field. This hope was realized in undreamed proportions during the railroad boom of the late eighties.

Several earlier attempts had been made to connect Macon and Florida. In 1881 a firm representing $10,000,000 capital and composed of Messrs. Wm. H. Aston, George S. Berry, and F. E. Lyons, of New York, had secured Georgia and Florida charters for a road from Macon to Tampa. On November 20, 1883, the Macon and Florida Airline Company applied for a charter. Directors for this line were: Messrs. A. J. Lane (president of the St. John's and Lake Eustis Railroad and of Johnson and Lane Company), H. J. Lamar, M. Nussbaum, William H. Ross, Virgil Powers, (manager of the Southern Railway and Steamship Association), A. O. Bacon, R. H. Plant, George B. Turpin, L. N. Whittle, S. T. Coleman, S. R. Jaques, S. S. Dunlap, and J. S. Schofield. To build this line Macon was asked to subscribe $150,000 in stock. The proposed road would extend from Macon to Gainesville. It would open fourteen counties of rich farm and pine timberland to Macon trade and factories. These counties had a popula-

tion of 138,590 and property valued at $21,462,916. The project was enthusiastically received, and surveys were completed by March 2, 1884.

In February a group of men — only one of them a Georgian — filed articles of association for a rival line to Florida, the St. John's and Gulf Railway Company. Macon felt that these men had no interest in this section and represented organizations that were seeking to monopolize Florida's trade.

The Macon company received its charter April 17, 1884, and Mr. Lane, who had been chosen president, went North to secure capital. He failed to obtain backing and the project was abandoned. Although several attempts were made to revive the company, none succeeded until 1886.

One April afternoon (in 1886) Mr. W. W. Collins, president of Collins Carriage Manufacturing Company, asked Mr. Jeff Lane about his father's charter for a line to Florida. With this query, Messrs. Collins, Lane, H. L. Jewett, and E. B. Waters again became interested in the Florida railroad. Mr. W. B. Sparks and Mr. H. J. Lamar joined them in starting the movement. Immediate difficulties arose from rival claims to the charter. Chief claimants were the Macon and Covington Railroad, and Mr. Sparks and affiliates of the Georgia Southern and Florida line. Finally the stock and charter were settled into the hands of the original company with Mr. Sparks and Mr. Lamar added.

The next important step in this project was the organization of the Macon Construction Company with a capital stock of $500,000 (fifty shares at $10,000). Twenty-seven of these shares were taken by Macon men, among whom were: Messrs. H. L. Jewett, R. F. Lawton, H. J. Lamar, Sr., H. J. Lamar, Jr., M. Nussbaum, S. Waxelbaum, W. G. Solomon, R. H. Brown, P. H. Crump, R. L. Henry, N. M. Solomon, Joseph Dannenberg, A. B. Small, J. H. Campbell, W. B. Sparks, Jeff Lane, W. W. Collins, S. R. Jaques, S. T. Coleman, E. B. Waters, W. H. Virgin, John N. Birch, John Ingalls, C. L. Bartlett, N. M. Hodgkins, and D. J. Baer. The purpose of the company was to construct the Florida line. The road was named "The Georgia Southern and Florida" and the following were its officers: president, H. J. Lamar; vice-president, S. T. Coleman; secretary and treasurer, R. S. Collins. Subsequently Mr. Lamar resigned and for many years Mr. Sparks was president.

On November 30, 1887, a trial trip over the thirty completed miles of the road was made. Early in 1888 Mr. Sparks announced the purchase of property on Fifth Street for depots and predicted that the company would be running trains into Macon within six weeks. Macon drummers were invited to enjoy the maiden trip down the Sewanee Route to Vienna. The first run to Tifton was made December 15, 1888. On February 26, 1889, an alliance through traffic arrangements

was made by the Georgia Southern and Florida, the Macon and Birmingham, and the Atlanta and Florida. On March 10th, the G.S.&F. was completed to Palatka, Florida — a total distance of 285 miles.[10]

On June 4, 1889, the Macon Construction Company announced plans for building the Macon and Atlantic Railroad, of which Mr. W. B. Sparks was to be president, Mr. W. W. Collins, vice-president, and Mr. Jeff Lane, manager. On June 17th ground was broken at Sapelo Sound.

Mr. Sparks, of the Georgia Southern and Florida, and President John M. Robinson, of the Seaboard Air Line, on February 14, 1891, formed a combination for the building of a road from Elberton to Macon. This road — to be about 100 miles long — was named the Macon and Northeastern. Reference has been made to the deal which marked the climax of this period of railroad expansion.[11] On February 19th Mr. Sparks wired Mr. George B. Turpin the terms of his deal with Mr. Robinson. This combination and the subsequent sale by Mr. Sparks of $1,000,000 worth of G.S.&F. bonds to one company caused more excitement than has ever been felt in Macon business circles. Fortunes were made overnight, and one man was known to have refused $70,000 for one share of $10,000 Macon Construction stock. For some reason Mr. Robinson lost faith in the soundness of the Macon Construction Company and decided not to complete the purchase.

4.—Railroads in Difficulties

Close upon the heels of Mr. Robinson's rescinding of his deal, application was filed for a receivership for the Macon Construction Company, owner of the G.S.&F. and the partially completed Macon and Birmingham, and then building the Macon and Atlantic. On November 3rd of the same year the Macon and Atlantic was placed in the hands of a receiver at the petition of its creditors. Judge Speer appointed Mr. H. J. Lamar, Sr. temporary receiver. Mr. Sparks was later appointed receiver of this road and the Georgia Southern and Florida. All hope of building the Macon and Atlantic was abandoned until the financial stringency should be relieved.

The year 1892 brought unprecedented troubles to the Central of Georgia Railroad. In June, 1891, the Central had been leased to the Georgia Pacific. At an earlier date the Southwestern had been subleased by the Central to the Richmond and Danville. Thus the Central (504 miles) with its divisions: the Southwestern (334 miles), the Montgomery and Eufaula (eighty miles), the Port Royal and Western Carolina (230 miles), Savannah and Western (626 miles)—a total of

10. Twenty-three miles more than the route provided under the original—1881—charter.
11. See A—Topic 2.

1,904 miles—came under the control of the powerful Terminal System, a railroad combination which controlled the Richmond and Danville, the Georgia Pacific, and other lines. Fearing that its lease might be void under the Georgia Constitution, the Terminal seemed eager to drop the Central from its management.

Suit against the Georgia Pacific and the Richmond and Danville system, attacking the validity of their lease, was filed by Mrs. Rowena Rountree, holder of a large block of Central stock and a resident of Charleston, South Carolina. On March 3, 1892, the Central Railroad and Banking Company passed into the hands of a receiver. Judge Emory Speer, of the Federal Court, appointed Mr. E. P. Alexander temporary receiver. News of the receivership created a national sensation in business circles, and New York's confidence in the Terminal Company was completely shaken. The extended litigation over the Central was one of the most brilliant and important civil cases that had ever been tried in a Southern city. Lawyers from all sections of the country came to Macon, either to participate or to listen to the hearings. The estimated cost to the Central was $100,000. One of the most sensational features of the early phase of the case was Mr. A. O. Bacon's intervention. His brilliant pleadings were accepted in full by Mrs. Rountree's attorneys. The case was also important for the influence it carried in preventing illegal consolidations to defeat competition and in forestalling the "squeezing out" of minority stockholders.

Many rulings concerning the Terminal's right to vote its 42,000 shares (enjoined by the court from so doing), concerning disposal of property and other matters followed the famous Rowena Rountree case. Judge Speer turned the Central property over to its Georgia directors as receivers with the understanding that the court would relinquish the property as soon as a legal board could be elected and charter regulations be complied with. The directors elected Mr. H. M. Comer, of Savannah, president. The prosecuting attorneys, chiefly Messrs. Marion Erwin, J. Lam Perry, and A. O. Bacon, were regarded as heroes, and confidence in the Central was restored.

Further litigation was precipitated by the refusal of the Richmond and Danville to surrender ninety-five shares of New England and Savannah Steamship Company stock and $30,000 which had been collected from the fire insurance on the Macon depot. In April Judge Speer appointed Mr. W. D. Nottingham special master in all litigation concerning the Central. A few months later Judge Adams, representing $10,000,000 of creditors, who had the best interests of the road at heart, asked that a receiver again be appointed to take charge of the property and administer it as a trust fund. The plea was granted, and Mr. Comer was appointed.

During 1893 many controversies resulted from proposed plans for

reorganization and rehabilitation of the Central. In April of that year the Richmond Terminal filed suit against the Central, questioning the legality of the receivership in an effort to oust Mr. Comer. Another suit for this purpose was filed in May by Alexander Brown and Sons. Southwestern stockholders accepted the committee report on reorganization, but enemies of the plan continued their opposition. In this year Justice Jackson, of the United States Supreme Court, dissolved the injunction granted by Judges Speer and Pardee against the Terminal Company's voting its 42,000 shares of Central stock. He also ruled against the removal of Mr. Comer and endorsed the proposed (Hollins) reorganization plan.

In September a co-receiver (Richard Summers Hayes) was appointed. In January of 1894 Justice Jackson signed a decree of foreclosure and an alternative order of sale of the Georgia Central and the Southwestern Railroad of Georgia. The Southwestern, which had the preceding year declined the Central's offer of release, voted in February to withdraw, and in November the Central reorganized independently of the Southwestern. In 1895 a decree for the sale of the Central and the Savannah and Western was issued by Judge Pardee. It was later bid in by the reorganization committee for $3,000,000. Another chapter in the road's complicated history ended on October 31st, when with all properties it was transferred to the Southern Railroad.

Other Macon railroads were passing through difficult years too, although none caused such widespread interest or involved such intricate litigation as the Central.

On May 4, 1892, the mortgage was foreclosed on the Atlantic and Florida Railroad and Mr. Plant was named receiver. A few days later one of the biggest public sales in Macon's history was scheduled when the unfinished Macon and Atlantic Railroad, of which Mr. Sparks was receiver, was offered for sale; but there were no bidders. In the summer of this year, the East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia was placed in the hands of a receiver, although its indebtedness was not abnormally high. In July the Macon and Northern (the old Macon and Covington) whose lease was owned jointly by the Central and the Richmond and Danville, was placed under a board of control, of which Mr. N. E. Harris was elected president. Within two months it was in receivership, with Mr. Harris acting as the Central's agent in the receivership.

Railroad news during 1893 continued to center around receiverships, sales, and law suits. At one time, all railroads running in and out of Macon—except the Georgia—were in the hands of receivers. One of the most sensational cases was that which involved efforts to oust Mr. Sparks from the Georgia Southern and Florida receivership.

It was said that more illustrious legal lights were engaged in this case than in any that had appeared in the Bibb Superior Court. In this year the Macon and Atlantic was bought in by its creditors for $410,000, and the Georgia Southern and Florida was ordered sold for a minimum price of $3,500,000.

One of the far-reaching events of the period occurred in 1894 with the combination of the Southern Railroad Company with a number of other Southern railroads. In July the Southern, which had formerly obtained the Richmond and Danville, secured control of the East Tennesse, Virginia, and Georgia lines leased by it. The Georgia Southern and Florida; the Macon and Birmingham; and the Macon, Dublin, and Savannah remained independent lines. It was also in this year (October, 1894) that the Macon and Northern was sold to Alexander Brown and Sons, of Baltimore, for $1,070,000.

In 1895 the sale of the Georgia Southern and Florida was confirmed by the court. The purchasers were the first mortgage bondholders and the price was $3,000,000. When the directors met in November, they discontinued the office of General Manager, and Mr. Willis B. Sparks, who had been prominently identified with the road since the time of its conception, was thus removed.

Important among the railroad transactions of 1896 was the sale of the Macon and Birmingham and the Atlantic Short Line. In October of this year the Macon, Dublin, and Savannah abandoned its franchise and other privileges.

Mr. W. B. Sparks, the Dunlap Hardware Company, Messrs. M. J. Hatcher, Sam Mayer, and B. L. Jones in 1897 petitioned the state to place the Southern Railroad in receivership. The petition did not represent the opinion of most Macon men, who opposed such harrassing of the railroads; and the petitioners withdrew their request. However, there followed another petition to which the state was not asked to be a party. The petitioning attorneys were Dessau, Bartlett, Ellis, Bacon, Miller, and Brunson, who represented the original petitioners and additional parties. They did not ask immediate receivership, but asked the court to declare illegal the corporate powers of the Southern. The motive of the suit was to secure lower freight rates for Macon, but many Macon citizens believed the method unfortunate. Judge Speer delayed action on the suit, and *The Telegraph* through its editorials implored Macon to look forward to the new era and to adjust to the changing times by renouncing such tactics.

After 1898 such sensational railroad news disappeared. Macon lines operated normally during the remaining years of the century.

SECTION II — GOVERNMENT

A—Local and State

City and county elections during the twenty years of this period were generally quiet. Occasionally a third party put up a candidate or opposition tickets were nominated by labor groups; but unexciting campaigns, light votes, and citizens' tickets were more characteristic of local political activity.

1880 - 1881

In the opening year of this period Mr. Felix Corput was mayor. The following aldermen were serving the second year of their two-year terms: W. A. Huff, W. F. Cannon, J. L. Kennedy, B. Dub, W. S. Higgins, L. Fitzgerald, S. S. Dunlap, John D. Hudgins, W. E. Flanders, C. Masterson, and Hayne Ellis (elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of W. M. Johnson). Mr. Dub resigned April 22nd and on May 3rd Gilbert Davis was elected to take his place. County Commissioners in 1880 were: J. B. Giles, Wm. Hazlehurst, H. R. Tinsley, T. C. Burke, and James Holmes. County officers were: Albert B. Ross, clerk; George T. Cherry, sheriff; Henry J. Peter, tax collector; Robert J. Anderson, tax receiver; J. C. Wheeler, surveyor; and James P. Chapman, coroner.

During this year Macon inaugurated the plan of having two courts in progress, the third Georgia city to adopt this plan. Judge Simmons presided over the Superior Court and Judge C. F. Crisp over the equity docket. In the October elections Bibb County sent to the State Legislature Mr. A. O. Bacon, Mr. A. J. Lane, and Mr. A. C. Tharp. Mr. Bacon was unanimously chosen Speaker of The House and pledged himself to prevent further division in the party. In November Mr. John L. Hardeman was elected solicitor-general, replacing Mr. C. L. Bartlett.

In State politics the year was marked by unusual dissension. On May 22nd General Gordon announced his resignation from the United States Senate to become attorney for the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. Governor Colquitt's prompt appointment of Ex-Governor Brown was offensive to Georgians, both because of Brown's alliance with Republicans and because the whole affair smacked of chicancery. Resentment against Gordon for betraying a public trust and against Colquitt for political bargaining was intense. When the state convention met in August, this resentment resulted in an unprecedented deadlock. The Colquitt forces finally succeeded in commanding a majority, but not the two-thirds majority required by party rule for nomination. For the first time in its history the Georgia Democratic Convention adjourned without agreeing on a gubernatorial candidate.

Many leaders felt that, despite his shady dealings, Colquitt was the majority choice and that the party could best be served by closing ranks around him. But the minority faction began a heated campaign for its candidate, Thomas H. Norwood. At the time when the South was just beginning to emerge from Republican domination, the Democratic party in Georgia was hopelessly split—a situation that caused grave misgivings to political leaders and all thinking citizens.

Macon citizens had hoped that the convention would nominate Col. Thomas Hardeman, Jr., but when this hope was blasted and the campaign resolved into a vituperative fight, the "man on the monument lived in a halo of burning gunpowder." Both factions organized clubs in Macon, held mass meetings, staged demonstrations, and ran "cards" in the papers. Macon looked to such men as Judge Nisbet, Congressman Blount, and Judge Anderson to hold the Macon party together; but personal feuds often supplanted party loyalty or state welfare, and people longed for the October elections to settle the issue. Bibb gave Colquitt a majority of 390 votes, and over the state he received a majority of 55,000.

In the December city elections Mr. Corput was re-elected mayor and the following aldermen were elected to serve in 1881 and 1882: W. F. Cannon, L. W. Hunt, J. L. Kennedy, F. S. Johnson, H. G. Cutter, R. H. Brown, S. S. Dunlap, John D. Hudgins, W. L. Higgins, C. Masterson, and Joseph Dannenberg. In 1881 Mr. D. Cronneline and Mr. O. N. Dana were elected to succeed aldermen Hunt and Higgins. In the county elections of 1881 these commissioners were elected: John Ingalls, J. C. Wilder, John W. Stubbs, John B. Giles, and George S. Obear. Mr. J. J. Amason and Mr. W. R. Phillips were later elected to replace Commissioners Wilder and Stubbs, who died in office. In the same election Mr. A. B. Ross was named clerk; Mr. G. S. Westcott, sheriff; Mr. R. J. Anderson, tax receiver; Mr. H. J. Peters, tax collector; Mr. J. C. Wheeler, surveyor; Mr. P. St. P. Guerrardie, coroner; and Mr. John A. McManus, ordinary.

1882 - 1883

In September of 1882 the financial suit between Mr. W. A. Huff and the city, which had been pending for some months, was settled by compromise with Alderman F. S. Johnson serving as agent for the city and Mr. N. E. Harris as city attorney. In the primary of September 9th Messrs. Harris, Lofton, and Bartlett were nominated for Bibb legislators. On November 25th a mass meeting was called for the purpose of naming a municipal ticket. This citizens' ticket, headed by Mr. Corput, whose term had been marked by sound finances and progress, was opposed by Mr. C. A. Tharpe. Mr. Tharpe promised Macon reworking of the streets, improvement in the Police Depart-

ment, a market house, a thorough system of cisterns, a paid Fire Department, and new industries. Mr. Corput received 693 votes and Mr. Tharpe 585. Aldermen were: J. G. McCrary, J. D. Hudgins, F. S. Johnson, M. G. Schwed, P. Payton, A. Proudfit, N. J. Johnson, H. Horne, W. A. Davis, J. C. Van Syckel, W. R. Cox, and S. B. Price.

The same animosities that had stirred the state in 1880 were smoldering in 1882. There was much talk of abandoning the two-thirds majority rule, but *The Telegraph and Messenger* editor saw in this another scheme to destroy Georgia democracy. Bibb delegates to the state nominating convention supported Augustus O. Bacon for governor, but "the Atlanta ring" succeeded in nominating A. H. Stephens. For the sake of party unity, Mr. Bacon withdrew his name and Bibb delegates voted for Mr. Stephens. Col. Thomas Hardeman was nominated for Congressman-at-large, "the olive branch" handed Macon for its support of Stephens, according to the local papers.

How truly a newspaper reflects or molds public opinion is difficult to judge, but it seems safe to assume that *The Telegraph's* bitter campaign against Mr. Stephens did not accurately represent Macon sentiment. The paper objected to Mr. Stephens because of "his past desertion of the Democratic party, his frail physical and intellectual condition, and his lack of a platform."[12] Stephen's opponent, Lucius J. Gartrell, had, according to *The Telegraph and Messenger,* a platform that "was full of trap doors."[13] Daily the spicy editorials of this paper lamented the machinations of the Gordon-Brown-Colquitt ring, the buying and selling of votes, the appeal to negro voters, "bossism", Independentism, Republicanism, the sale of the State railroad to its lessees, the abrogation of the long-established two-thirds majority rule, the payment of the bogus bonds, and Stephens' failure to clarify his platform.

On September 8th Mr. Stephens came to Macon. Serving on the reception committee were: Messrs. J. H. Blount, George S. Jones, W. D. Williams, Thomas Hardeman, Jr., Roland Hall, Judge Simmons, and many others. Messrs. Blount, W. A. Huff, and Roland Hall escorted Stephens to Mr. E. E. Brown's home on Poplar Street, where he received visitors. On September 9th he addressed the citizens at Masonic Hall and clarified his position on the current issues. The following day *The Telegraph and Messenger* announced its grudging support, but throughout the following weeks continued warning its readers to give up jugglery and legerdemain. In the October elections Stephens carried nearly every Georgia county with Gartrell capturing only the negro vote. In the November general elections ten Democrats were sent to Congress (among them Hardeman and Blount, of Bibb) and Macon rejoiced at the expulsion of Republicans and Independents.

12. The Macon Telegraph and Messenger, August 22, 1882.
13. Ibid, August 13, 1882.

Loud accusations against the ring were renewed, however, with the Legislature's election of senators. Both a short-term and a long-term senator were to be chosen. Mr. Stephens' alleged support of Colquitt once more stirred *The Telegraph and Messenger's* ire. The paper warned the Legislature that in choosing Colquitt, "the weakest and unfittest"[14] man, they would do Georgia an injustice and destroy party harmony. Colquitt failed to secure a majority in either house on the first balloting, but on November 16th Colquitt and Barrow were elected. Once more, according to most of the Georgia press, commercial democracy with its personal and political combinations and wire pulling had been victorious. Once more the majority had been defeated by a well-organized minority. Although *The Atlanta Constitution* and *The Augusta Chronicle* rejoiced that harmony had returned, *The Telegraph and Messenger* declared that the party had never been more divided.

Of interest not only to Macon but to the whole state was the introduction in the State Legislature by Mr. N. E. Harris, of Bibb, of a bill which provided for the establishment of a state technological school. It was an institution for which both Mr. Harris and Mr. J. F. Hanson had long worked.

Although odd years are usually dull in state politics, 1883 saw several important events. A special county fencing election was called in February and much agitation resulted. The issue at stake was whether to fence stock or crops, and, although the former (no fence) required stronger and better fences, many people felt that it would improve both the land and the stock. The fence faction won the election by a majority of sixty-seven.

On March 5, 1883, Governor Alexander H. Stephens died. Not only did Macon grieve over the loss of Georgia's great statesman and participated in his funeral—one of the largest ever held in the state—but it was affected by the political reverberations of his death. The state Democratic Executive Committee called a convention to meet in Atlanta on April 10th. The two chief candidates for the unexpired gubernatorial term were Mr. Boynton, President of the State Senate, and Mr. A. O. Bacon, of Macon. Once more leaders hoped that this convention would crush personalism and bring the party back to harmony. The Bibb County Executive Committee called a mass meeting to choose delegates, and the meeting, presided over by Hon. George W. Gustin, unanimously voted its support to Mr. Bacon. The state convention met on the designated date, and on the first five ballots Bacon led. On the sixth through the seventeenth ballotings neither candidate had a decisive majority. For three days the balloting continued at a deadlock. First Bacon and then Boynton withdrew. A conference commit-

14. Ibid, November 11, 1882.

tee dissolved the *impasse,* and Mr. Henry D. McDaniel, a "pure, anti-ring Democrat, was nominated. Thus the Augean stables were cleaned."[15] Mr. Bacon emerged from the contest unscathed and without loss of prestige.

On July 22, 1883, the State Legislature acted on a bill creating the City Court of Macon, with civil jurisdiction embracing all cases above the jurisdiction of the justice of the peace (except divorce, equity, and title to land cases) and with criminal jurisdiction embracing all cases except those in which the offender was subject to loss of life or confinement to the penintentiary. The judge was to be appointed by the governor with the consent of the Senate, and the prosecuting officer was to be the solicitor-general of the Macon Circuit.

Governor McDaniel had planned to appoint Mr. J. F. Hanson, of Macon, to serve on the capitol commission; but his appointment was opposed by Bibb legislators and by Mr. Blount. Mr. Hanson relieved the tension by withdrawing his name.

In the 1883 county elections Messrs. Ross, Westcott, Wheeler, and Anderson were re-elected; Mr. William Hodnell was elected coroner and Mr. C. B. Massenburg, tax collector.

1884 - 1885

In the 1884 primary Messrs. N. E. Harris, Gustin, and Bartlett were nominated, and later elected, to represent Bibb in the State Legislature. Mr. T. B. Cabaniss was named state senator from the Twenty-second Senatorial District. Although both Congressmen Blount and Hardeman were discussed as gubernatorial candidates, they did not run; and McDaniel was re-elected without opposition. Because he had opposed Mr. Hanson's appointment and offered no explanation, Congressman Blount was threatened with opposition; but this did not develop, and he was again elected to represent the Sixth District in the national Congress.

Elected as commissioners for the county were: John Ingalls, J. J. Amason, W. E. Jenkins, W. R. Phillips, and J. B. Giles. The only change in the personnel of county officers was C. B. Massenburg, who was elected tax collector.

On December 13, 1884, Mr. S. B. Price was elected mayor. Elected to serve with him during 1884 and 1885 were: Aldermen J. G. McCrary, G. C. Conner, W. B. Chapman, J. D. Hudgins, M. O'Hara, A. Proudfit, F. S. Johnson, W. R. Cox, R. H. Smith, W. A. Davis, T. J. Ware, and M. Nussbaum.

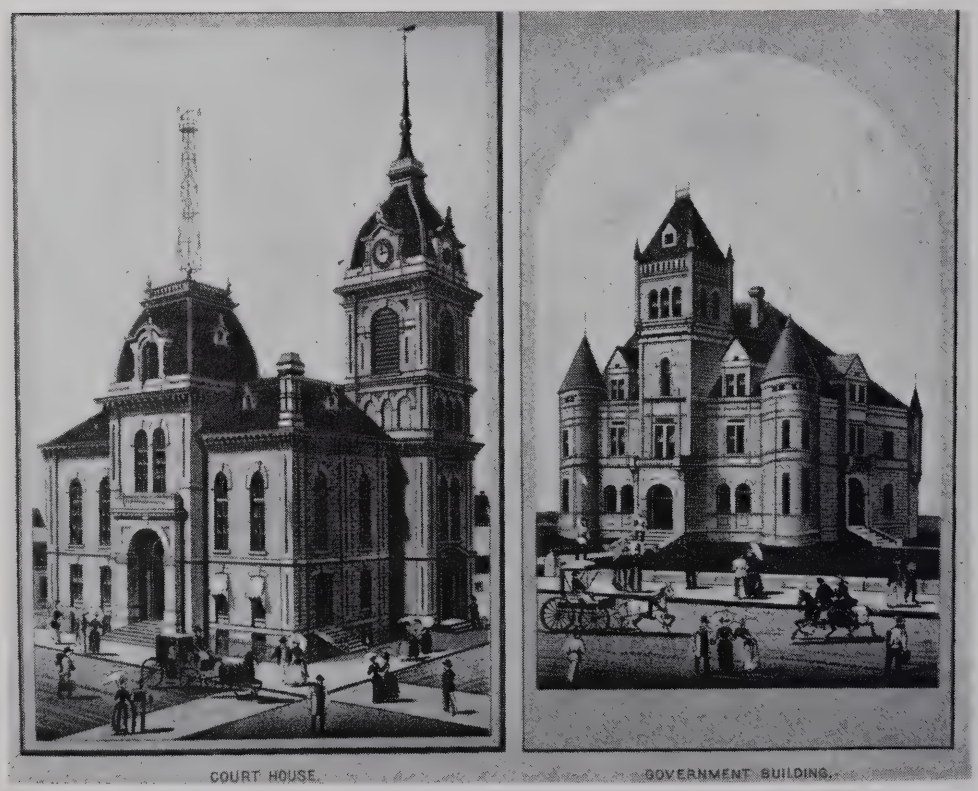
In 1885 the Macon City Court was finally established, and Hon. Charles J. Harris was appointed its first judge. During this year Mr. Thomas Hardeman was appointed postmaster. This year also saw increased agitation for prohibition and the passing of a local option law.

15. Ibid, April 12, 1883.

1886 - 1887

To the great chagrin of *The Macon Telegraph,* Congressman Blount was made Chairman of the House Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads. The state political pot began to boil when General Gordon announced in May that "in order to restore peace to Georgia democracy" he would be a candidate for governor, opposing Mr. Bacon, who was again making the race. In addition to the time-worn question of Gordon's resignation from the Senate and his alliance with the Atlanta Ring, the important issues were the Railroad Commission's autocracy, the convict lease, and the disposal of the State Railroad. Bibb County Democrats in mass meeting instructed their delegates to nominate Bacon for governor and Judge Clifford Anderson for solicitor-general. The convention met in July and nominated John B. Gordon.

In the county elections Messrs. W. A. Huff, J. E. Schofield, and W. H. Felton were named legislators; D. H. Adams was chosen clerk of the Superior Court; all other county officers were re-elected. *The Telegraph* continued its attacks against Congressman Blount, directing its barbs against his support of free trade. (The paper, controlled at this



Government Buildings

time by Mr. Hanson, of the Bibb Mills, was naturally ardent in its support of protection). The State Legislature passed a bill creating a Police Commission for Macon. Mr. Price, who was opposed by T. C. Hendrix, was again elected mayor. The following were elected to serve as aldermen for 1887 and 1888: A. Proudfit, W. A. Davis, John D. Hudgins, John Ingall, E. O. O'Connell, H. J. Powell, M. O'Hara, T. J. Ware, DeWitt McCrary, Henry Horne, C. C. Conner, and R. H. Smith.

1888 - 1889

The next two years saw the development of a reform movement in Macon. Many complaints had been made about improper voting and registration. In 1888 the Citizens Reform Association was formed with a charter membership of 150, which soon increased to 800. The purpose of the organization was to improve registration regulations, eliminate illegal voting, enforce existing laws, and make needed changes in laws. They favored commissions for streets, sewerage, parks, and cemeteries. Mr. Virgil Powers was elected president. Although the Reform Association was non-partisan, it did vote to withhold its support of Mr. Bartlett (running for the State Senate) because of his indifference to the reform movement.

In the September primary Messrs. R. W. Patterson, S. C. Chambliss, and W. A. Huff were nominated to the State Legislature; Bartlett to the State Senate; Gordon for re-election as governor; and Blount for his ninth term in the national House of Representatives. Mr. Price was in December re-elected mayor. The aldermen were: M. O'Hara, R. H. Smith, T. O. Chestney, James Boone, Peter Harris, H. C. Tindall, A. Proudfit, J. Dannenberg, George T. Wing, and Hugh McKervey.

Throughout 1889 the problem of evil political practices disturbed local citizens. The grand jury investigating the 1888 county election uncovered twenty George Washingtons, nineteen Andrew Jacksons, and several hundred other illegal votes. They made no indictments but recommended that the State Legislature pass a registration law.

In this year Macon was stirred by an intense quarrel between two of Bibb's legislators, Mr. R. W. Patterson and Mr. W. A. Huff. The quarrel resulted from a published accusation that Mr. Patterson was himself obstructing the passage of the Patterson Bill, a bill to repeal the Jewett law in order to issue sufficient bonds to park, pave, and sewer Macon's streets. Mr. John T. Boifeuillet alleged that Mr. Huff had made the accusation and Mr. Patterson termed the perpetrator of the story a liar. Macon people felt that without the interference of Governor Gordon and Mayor Glenn, of Atlanta, the difference would have been quietly settled. The governor and mayor, fearing a duel,

ordered both legislators arrested. Mr. Patterson quietly left Atlanta for Chattanooga, and Mr. Huff gave his word that he would not escape. He secured permission to return to Macon. When it became known that both men were traveling, it was presumed that they were on their way to a rendezvous in Alabama, and orders for their arrest were circulated to neighboring states. Mr. Huff, attempting to reach Sulphur Springs, stopped at Girard, where he was pursued by authorities and escaped to the woods. Mr. Huff, one of the city's most prominent and valued citizens, was causing his friends great anxiety. Among the Macon men who sought to prevent his meeting Mr. Patterson were: Messrs. B. L. Willingham, J. F. M. Daly, W. G. Solomon, and Roff Sims. Mr. Sims and Mr. Emmett Barnes met Mr. Huff in Columbus. Mr. Huff and Mr. Sims were later captured at Salem, Alabama and released by Judge Robinson under heavy bail, after which they returned to Macon. Mr. Patterson and both seconds had meanwhile reached the rendezvous and waited thirty-six hours for Mr. Huff, who was never allowed to arrive at Sulphur Springs. Macon people were still uneasy after the men had returned. Finally a citizens' meeting was called to effect a settlement. Three ministers finally arbitrated the quarrel and the state-wide sensation ended.

County officers elected in 1889 were: commissioners—R. L. Henry, W. R. Phillips, G. M. Davis, W. S. Jenkins, J. J. Amason; C. M. Wiley, ordinary; D. H. Adams, clerk; G. S. Westcott, sheriff; R. J. Anderson, tax receiver; J. C. Wheeler, surveyor; C. B. Massenburg, tax collector; W. W. Henderson, coroner.

1890 - 1891

One of the first and most important political events of 1890 was the appointment by Governor Gordon of Mr. A. L. Miller, of Houston County, to the Macon Circuit Superior judgeship, succeeding Judge Gustin, who returned to private practice. Col. Tom Hardeman was endorsed by Bibb County Democrats for governor, but was forced by ill health to retire early from the race. William J. Northen, president of the State Agricultural Society, was nominated and elected without opposition. In the Congressional contest, Mr. Daniel G. Hughes opposed Congressman Blount, but with the able support of Messrs. H. S. Edwards, James S. Campbell, I. B. English, and W. A. Huff, Blount was re-elected. The Macon Bar unanimously endorsed Mr. John P. Ross as judge of the City Court, and asked the Legislature to continue Judge Miller in the Superior Court. Bibb elected as legislators Messrs. John T. Boifeuillet, W. A. Huff, and Tracy Baxter. The new legislators met the citizens to discuss legislation for sewers, registration, and a new charter suggested by Mr. Huff to limit the mayor's and aldermen's terms to one year and to eliminate the office of recorder. The city election this year was enlivened by disagreement over how

best to effect needed reforms. A citizens' committee nominated an aldermanic ticket, which did not satisfy all citizens. Mayor Price was asked to run on the citizens' platform, which included sewerage, a Police Commission, better enforcement of existing laws and passage of needed ones, one term for mayor with aldermen's terms staggered so that one-half should be chosen at each biennial election, with changes in the city's charter to effect these provisions. Mr. Price, who had been mayor for six years and was candidate for re-election, endorsed all planks on the platform except the last one. The Legislature passed the Huff Bill, which provided changes in the city charter making the mayor's term three years and limiting him to one term. In the December municipal elections, a consolidated ticket from the Committee of One Hundred and the citizens was run. S. B. Price was elected mayor and aldermen were elected for the terms indicated: First Ward—G. C. Conner, three years; T. O. Chestney, two years; W. F. Carroll, one year; Second Ward—W. T. Morgan, three years; J. Vann, two years; A. W. Gibson, one year; Third Ward—R. H. Smith, three years; W. B. Troy, two years; L. Lilienthal, one year; Fourth Ward—W. T. Shinholser, three years; T. J. Ware, two years; N. R. Winshap, one year. Mr. S. B. Price, affectionately nicknamed "Daisy", was the only mayor who was a native of Macon and was also Macon's youngest mayor. This was the fourth time he had been elected mayor and the second time without opposition. Concerning him *The Telegraph* wrote, "The rose has but a summer's reign, the daisy never dies."[16]

In the county election the following officers were named: R. A. Nisbet, clerk; G. S. Westcott, sheriff; R. J. Anderson, tax receiver; J. C. Wheeler, surveyor; Frank Knight, coroner; D. B. Jones, tax collector. George W. Burch was appointed by the ordinary to fill the vacancy in the coroner's office which occurred in August.

In the aldermanic election of 1891, the Railway League of Macon ran candidates, but the "Macon Ticket" won. Under the Huff Bill, four aldermen were chosen: First Ward—L. J. Dinkler; Second Ward —Peter Harris; Third Ward—R. S. Collins; Fourth Ward—Thomas J. Carling. In this year the Macon Bar Association paid tribute to Judge Speer, who had presided over the Federal Court for seven years, and to Judge Miller of the Superior Court. It was in this year that the Farmers' Alliance of The United States formed the Peoples' Party ,Populists. Thomas Watson, of Thomson, became leader of the Populist movement in Georgia.

1892 - 1893

Interest in the state elections was increased by the possibility of a Prohibition ticket and by the activities of the Populist party. Bibb's candidate for congressman from the Sixth District was Charles L.

16. Ibid, December 9, 1890.

Bartlett. At the Indian Springs convention, called to choose between Bartlett, Whitfield, and Cabaniss, a deadlock was prolonged through 168 ballotings, until Bibb withdrew Bartlett's name. In August Bibb experienced one of the hottest primaries of its history with the registration reform law the chief issue. Mr. Bob Hodges, the youngest man ever to represent Bibb; A. O. Bacon, who received the "most spontaneous accolade Bibb ever gave any candidate"; and Mr. Boifeuillet were elected legislators. In this year General James B. Weaver, Populist candidate for president, and Mrs. Mary Allen Lease, national politician, visited Macon and were rudely showered with over-ripe fruit. Bibb Republicans, active this year, fused with the Populists.

In the municipal election the following aldermen were elected: First Ward—H. S. Pearson; Second Ward—B. W. Sperry; Third Ward —Sam Altmayer; Fourth Ward—John Hurly.

In January of 1893 C. L. Bartlett was appointed to succeed Judge A. L. Miller, who resigned the Superior Court judgeship to return to private practice. Judge Miller had made an enviable record on the bench and was one of the most deservedly popular men in Georgia. After twenty-one years' service, Mr. Blount retired from Congress, where he had served as chairman of the powerful Foreign Affairs Committee and had immortalized his name by his fight against subsidies. County officers elected in January, 1893, included: C. M. Wiley, ordinary; R. A. Nisbet, clerk of Superior Court; G. S. Westcott, sheriff; R. J. Anderson, tax receiver; Albert Jones, tax collector; George S. Birch, surveyor; W. H. Hodnett, coroner; commissioners — G. M. Davis, W. E. Jenkins, R. L. Henry, J. J. Amason, J. G. McGolrick. The following year Frank Knight was appointed to succeed Coroner Hodnett, who had died in office.

In April, 1893, Mr. William L. Gary succeeded Mr. Erwin as district attorney of the Federal Court. In this year a new city charter, prepared by Mr. Nat E. Harris and Judge Clifford Anderson, was submitted to the Legislature. It provided, among other changes, a two-year mayor's term without eligibility to re-election; six wards instead of four; a Fire Commission; a Police Commission; and a Board of Public Works. Endorsed at a citizens' mass meeting, it was in November passed by the Legislature. In this year, the Young Men's Democratic Club was organized with Mr. Minter Wimberly, city attorney, as president. The chief purpose of the club was to oppose the Populists.

In the municipal election Mr. Henry Horne was named mayor without opposition, and Mr. Price retired after ten years' service as Macon's mayor. Aldermen for the newly created wards were elected for staggered terms: Fifth Ward—J. B. Riley, one year; Judson S. Hill, two years; Sixth Ward—C. D. Findlay, two years; D. H. Harris, one year. Chosen to serve on the Board of Public Works were Messrs. J. Dannenberg,

Nisbet Hazlehurst, and Virgil Powers; on the Police Commission, Messrs. S. S. Dunlap, T. C. Hendrix, and McGolrick; on the Fire Commission, Messrs. Edgar S. Wilson, W. H. Lathrop, and T. C. Burke.

1894 - 1895

A storm of protest arose here in March, 1894, when Mr. Marion Erwin, a Republican, was appointed assistant district attorney for the Southern District of Georgia in the United States Court. A more popular appointment was that of "Daisy" Price as postmaster. On March 26th, Mr. William H. Ross, of Macon, was notified of the death of his cousin, Senator Alfred H. Colquitt.[17] Besieged by applicants for the seat in the Senate, Governor Northen appointed Speaker Charles F. Crisp. When Mr. Crisp declined because he felt his first duty was to the Georgia Legislature, the governor appointed Patrick Walsh, editor of *The Augusta Chronicle*. Judge Bartlett resigned his position in the Macon Superior Court, and Governor Northen appointed John L. Hardeman to replace him.

In the gubernatorial race of 1894 two candidates, W. Y. Atkinson and General Clement A. Evans, sought the nomination. Rallies for both candidates were held in Macon, but Bibb voted for Atkinson by a 600 majority. He was later nominated by the state convention and elected. In June Col. Lee Ellis was chosen Commissioner of Public Works to succeed Mr. Virgil Powers. Mr. N. E. Harris was elected to represent this district in the State Senate, and Mr. Charles L. Bartlett was nominated national congressman from the Sixth District. Bibb legislators were Messrs. Hope Polhill, Robert Hodges, and John T. Boifeuillet. The only change in county officers was George L. Birch, who was elected surveyor. The State Legislature elected A. O. Bacon and Patrick Walsh respectively for the long and short terms in the national Senate. In Macon Bacon's election was received with wild enthusiasm.

Good Government Clubs were organized in Macon to put aldermanic candidates in the field and to prosecute all cases of illegal voting. In one of the cleanest elections on record, six aldermen were elected: First Ward—Charles J. Juhan; Second Ward—E. J. Willingham; Third Ward—Morris Happ; Fourth Ward—W. H. Mansfield; Fifth Ward—T. E. Ryals; Sixth Ward—C. D. Peavy. City Council elected for Public Works Commissioner, Mr. Ellis, for Police Commissioner, Mr. Cox, and for Fire Commissioner, Mr. Conner.

During 1895 agitation for again changing the city charter began. Many citizens believed that the system of commissions robbed the mayor of his power. Another reform movement was seen in the bill introduced by Mr. Polhill, of Bibb, providing for the creation of an

17. Senator Colquitt was a former Georgia governor. He was buried in Macon. See Section IV, topic on deaths.

appellate court to relieve the State Supreme Court. In Macon another Good Government Club was organized, with Mr. H. M. Worthem succeeding Mr. Calder as president. This club opposed the proposed changes in the city charter. On November 3rd Postmaster Price announced his candidacy for mayor. Upon the resignation of Judge John L. Hardeman, the Macon Bar endorsed Solicitor General W. H. Felton for the Superior Court judgeship, and sent a committee of twenty-five "to wait upon the governor". The Bibb delegation to the Legislature agreed upon charter amendments making the mayor eligible for re-election, fixing his salary at $3,000, and making him chairman of City Council and advisory member of all commissions. With the charter issue thus solved, only one ticket was in the field at the municipal election: Mayor—S. B. Price; aldermen: First Ward—DeWitt McCrary; Second Ward—Alexander Proudfit; Third Ward—John T. Moore; Fourth Ward—W. T. Morgan; Fifth Ward—Peyton W. Jones; Sixth Ward—Henry Jordan. In the same election Macon voted $500,000 worth of bonds for meeting the current deficiency and for other purposes. Mr. T. H. Henderson was chosen Police Commissioner, Mr. T. J. Ware, Public Works Commissioner ,and Mr. John J. Noone, Fire Commissioner.

1896 - 1897

Early in January Mr. W. H. Felton was appointed judge of the Superior Court of the Macon Circuit and Mr. A. W. Lane was appointed solicitor-general. The office of deputy marshal was created. Mr. J. H. Hertz was appointed postmaster. Through the efforts of Messrs. Price, Hodges, and Guerry Macon secured the state democratic convention for this year. The June Bibb primary was considered one of the warmest on record. It was to nominate a governor and other state officers, three state legislators, all county officers, and to express a choice for the state senator. For governor Bibb supported W. Y. Atkinson, who was opposed by Seaborn Wright, of the Peoples' Party. Dr. J. B. Gambrell, former president of Mercer University, was invited to run on a combined Prohibition and Populist ticket, and considered accepting, because he felt that neither of the major parties would ever break with the liquor power; but his candidacy did not materialize. Branches of the Young Men's Democratic Party were organized in all Macon districts. The campaign was marked by unusual bitterness, with friends and families divided and old party lines dissolved until the average voter hardly knew how he was voting. The county officers had the support of all parties. The slate included: commissioners—G. M. Davis, J. J. Amason, W. E. Jenkins, R. L. Henry, and J. S. McGee; Jerre Hollis, coroner; C. M. Wiley, ordinary; R. A. Nisbet, clerk; G. S. Westcott, sheriff; R. J. Anderson, tax receiver; Albert Jones, tax collector; C. B. Massenburg, treasurer; and C. C.

Anderson, surveyor. For the State Senate, Bibb supported Crisp, who was opposed by F. G. du Bignon. To the Legislature Bibb sent Messrs. Boifeuillet, D. D. Craig, and S. A. Reed. Atkinson was elected governor and Bartlett was elected to the national House of Representatives.

The Macon Charter Bill passed the Senate in December, providing machinery for abolishing Macon's city commission system. In the same month Macon voted to abolish the Police and Fire Commissions. In the municipal election the following ticket won: Mayor—S. B. Price; First Ward—Charles E. Damour; Second Ward—W. A. Wilder; Third Ward—T. Gray Goodwyn; Fourth Ward—Wm. T. Morgan; City-at-large—John T. Moore and Mallory H. Taylor.

1898 - 1900

Bibb County instructed its delegates to vote in the state convention of 1898 for Allen D. Candler, who was nominated and later elected governor. The Populist candidate was J. R. Hogan. Messrs. Roland Ellis, J. H. Hall, and A. W. Lane were elected to the Legislature, and Mr. Bartlett to represent the Sixth District in the national Congress. The same county officers were re-elected. In the state election an amendment to the constitution carried providing that judges and solicitors of the Superior Courts should be elected by the people. In the same election Mr. G. R. Glenn, of Bibb, was chosen state attorney-general. During this year Judge Speer appointed Mr. A. Proudfit referee under the Federal Bankruptcy Act.

Although prohibition had been agitated in Macon for many years, definite action was not taken until December, 1898, when under the State Local Option Law, upon the petition of one-tenth of the qualified voters, an election was called. In this election, the Prohibitionists had 1,280 votes, and the *Antis* 2,678.

In the 1898 aldermanic election the following were chosen: First Ward—John C. Van Syckel; Second Ward—Thomas F. Sheridan; Third Ward—Mallory H. Taylor; Fourth Ward—John T. Moore.

A vacancy in the mayor's office resulted in 1899 from the death of Mayor S. B. Price. Mr. W. T. Morgan, mayor pro tem, retired early from the race in the interests of harmony, leaving Mr. Bridges Smith unopposed. In the same election aldermen were chosen: First Ward—C. D. Pearson; Second Ward—L. W. Hollingsworth; Third Ward—Sam Mayer; Fourth Ward—David W. Hill.

The nomination of Mr. H. S. Edwards for the Macon postmastership in 1900 was bitterly opposed by Senator A. O. Bacon, but after long postponement Bacon's objections were withdrawn and the appointment confirmed. The last year of the century was a quiet one in politics. Allen D. Candler was re-elected governor; R. E. Park, attorney general; C. L. Bartlett, Sixth District congressman; Roland Ellis, state senator from this district; and L. J. Kilburn, T. S. Felder,

and Joseph H. Hall, Bibb legislators. Most county officers were re-elected. The commissioners were: G. M. Davis, R. L. Henry, W. E. Jenkins, John E. Bailey, and W. T. Shinholser. In December the Legislature re-elected A. O. Bacon to the National Senate and passed an amendment to the Macon charter, which had been suggested by Representative Roland Ellis. This amendment allowed the mayor and aldermen to succeed themselves, provided for election of a Commissioner of Streets, for the purchase of a city water-works system, and allowed property owners to make deferred payments for street and sidewalk improvements.

In the 1900 city election a citizens' ticket lost to an administration ticket, which included: First Ward—C. E. Damour; Second Ward—W. A. Wilder; Third Ward—E. S. Curd; Fourth Ward—W. T. Morgan. For many years the problem of annexing the suburbs had stirred the city. Legal machinery for incorporation was perfected in the 1900 session of the Legislature with passage of the Macon Annexation Bill, which gave the suburbs the right to vote on annexation when a certain number of property holders in the affected area should petition the mayor for an election.

B—*Macon's Participation in National Affairs*

1.—National Government

In the early years of this period the South was largely a spectator in national politics, and local interest centered in bitter scorn of the trickery and corruption of the Grant administration. During these years when Republicans still remained in control, Macon looked with pride on her great statesman, Hon. J. H. Blount. His work had, as early as 1880, benefitted Macon by the introduction of the postal delivery system here, the establishing of the United States District Court here, and the introduction of a bill to erect here a building for the Circuit Court and the postoffice. President Garfield considered Congressman Blount the best tactician and the sturdiest opponent in the Democratic party. Despite the barbs directed at Congressman Blount by *The Telegraph and Messenger,* he was conceded to be experienced, able, conscientious, and incorruptible. He was feared by lobbyists and jobbers, respected by fellow Congressman, and loved by his constituents. On many occasions Congressman Blount announced his intention of resigning, but repeatedly his constituents drafted him to return, and he represented the Sixth District for some twenty years.

Macon newspapers carried voluminous accounts of the shooting of President Garfield in 1881 and daily bulletins of his seventy-nine day struggle for survival. On the day of his funeral, schools and business houses closed, memorial services were held, and the city joined in the nation's mourning.

In July, 1884, the Democratic National Nominating Convention met at Chicago with strong hopes of setting up machinery that would "work for the ruin of that element which had for twenty years debauched national politics, kept up sectional strife, and made dishonesty a virtue."[18] Although Macon citizens preferred Thurman or Bayard, the convention nominated Grover Cleveland. The campaign was bitter, for success meant control by the white people of all Federal appointments; and Macon people eagerly awaited news of returns. On election night two mammoth bulletin boards, lighted with electricity, were placed in front of *The Telegraph and Messenger* office on Mulberry Street; and before ten o'clock hundreds of citizens had gathered to watch the returns. When news arrived at 11:15 (November 6th) that New York had voted for Cleveland, 100 rounds of cannon were fired, the bells of the city were rung, bonfires on Cherry Street were lighted, and thousands of staid citizens came into town to celebrate the emancipation from Republican rule. Immediate plans for more formal celebration were made by a committee headed by Mr. Charles H. Rogers and including Messrs. Sam H. Jemison, J. H. Blount, R. B. Hall, M. Nussbaum, Albert Ross, T. D. Tinsley, J. F. Hanson, Wm. R. Rogers, M. G. Schwed, W. B. Sparks, and John T. Boifeuillet. In one day $2,000 had been raised. A stage 48 by 60 feet with a seating capacity of 200 was erected. Over 2,000 tin torches, twelve large wagon loads of lightwood, and 500 transparancies were ordered. An *Arch de Triomphe,* depicting the North and South joining hands, was erected on Second Street at the monument. All residences and business establishments were lighted. The military companies, the Electric Light Brigade, and nearly all male citizens took part in the procession. Brass bands and people from neighboring towns swelled the crowds to 10,000 visitors. Capt. Carnes was marshal of the day. Governor McDaniel and Mr. Washington Dessau made the principal addresses. This celebration occurred November 11th, and is today remembered by some citizens as one of the biggest ever known in the city.

During 1886 Macon citizens were intensely interested in the national tariff issue. Mr. Hanson, through *The Macon Telegraph* editorial columns, repeatedly challenged Congressman Blount to defend his views on free trade. In 1888 Bibb County Democrats endorsed Cleveland and his tariff policy. Macon had a special interest in the appointment to the Supreme Court of Mr. L. Q. C. Lamar, who had at one time lived here and who was closely connected with prominent Macon families. Bibb Democrats once more endorsed Cleveland in 1892, and rejoiced at his election. They were no less pleased with the defeat of Tom Watson, who had run for Congress on the Populist ticket.

18. The Telegraph and Messenger, July 9, 1884.

In 1893 Ex-Congressman Blount was sent by the President on a delicate mission to Hawaii to investigate conditions resulting from the revolutions which had overthrown Queen Liliuokalani. It was generally believed that the Queen, opposing the liberal constitution granted by her brother, the late King Kalakaua, had conspired with corrupt influences in order to overthrow the constitution and make her powers dictatorial. These conditions precipitated a revolution which dethroned the Queen in 1893 and established the republic of Hawaii, a white man's government headed by Professor Dale as President, and Hatch as Minister of Foreign Affairs. In November Mr. Blount submitted his report, in which he accused United States Minister Stevens of abusing his power and conspiring to bring about the revolution. He termed the affair "the greatest conspiracy against a friendly and independent power ever carried on in the name of the United States."[19] Protestations from Stevens that Blount was inept and had been caught in the meshes of the advisors of the fallen Queen Liliuokalani followed. The intricate Hawaiian problem continued to disturb the administration, and the Blount report was hotly discussed both in the Foreign Affairs Committee and in Congress. The final settlement by annexation came long after Macon's personal interest had disappeared.

Another Cleveland appointment of interest to Macon was that of Mr. Robert Weston Patterson, former legislator and city attorney, as registrar of the land office in Oklahoma.

Macon began in 1896 to take an active interest in the free silver issue. In May a Sound Money Club was organized here with nearly 300 members. Mr. Ben L. Smith was elected president, Mr. James L. Anderson vice-president, Mr. John T. Moore secretary, and Mr. T. D. Ellis treasurer. There was great rivalry between this organization and the Silver League of Bibb, which had a membership of about 600 and of which Mr. Buford Davis was president. Both clubs held many rallies and invited prominent speakers to Macon. Testing the strength of the Silverites were the state elections of the year (1896), in which the Free Silver candidates won. In the presidential campaign Bibb staunchly supported William Jennings Bryan and Tom Watson on the sixteen to one free silver issue, although *The Telegraph* characteristically stood for the opposing issue of sound money on a gold standard. A McKinley-Hobart Club was organized here by Mr. J. F. Hanson and Mr. R. D. Locke. This club had a local membership of 187. Mr. Hanson toured Georgia, speaking on national issues, and was later elected president of the Republican League of Georgia. The Democrats split over the money question, and a minority faction met in September at Indianapolis, repudiated the action of the Chicago Convention, declared for the gold standard and a tariff for revenue only,

19. The Macon Telegraph, November 22, 1893.

and nominated Palmer and Buckner. Hon. Joshua Levering, candidate of the Prohibitionist Party, spoke in Macon in October. McKinley was elected by an overwhelming majority.

Upon the invitation of the Young Men's Democratic Club, William Jennings Bryan visited Macon in March, 1898. A tent was erected on the vacant lot near the city market, and over 6,000 people assembled March 9th to hear the silver-tongued orator, who was introduced by Senator Bacon. The distinguished politician was met at the depot by a committee of officials and driven in a carriage drawn by four white horses to the Lanier Hotel. His Macon speech lasted two and one-half hours.

In the 1900 election the Democrats once more pinned their hopes on Bryan, although the large states bitterly opposed the free silver platform. *The Telegraph* was consistent in its opposition. More Macon citizens were apparently converted to the paper's policy, for, when interviewed for their reactions to the Kansas City Convention's action, they seemed equally divided—*pro* and *con*.

2.—The Spanish-American War

For many years Spanish rule in Cuba had been attended with much suffering, and when, in 1894, the Cubans finally rebelled, many Americans were sympathetic to their cause. Spain fought the insurgents with great cruelty, which resulted in increased starvation, disease, and property loss. Although the Senate Foreign Relations Committee favored a policy encouraging the insurgents and sending relief to suffering Americans, and although Congress went so far as to pass resolutions granting belligerent rights to the rebels, President McKinley held to a policy of caution. Finally, in 1897, our government demanded of Spain that peace be promptly established. At this action Spain became so embittered that the safety of American citizens in Cuba was jeopardized. To protect her interests, the United States sent the battleship *Maine* to Havana harbor. On February 15, 1898, the ship exploded, killing and wounding many marines. *The Telegraph* joined the more conservative element of the American press in urging patience and calmness while awaiting results of the investigation. Inquiries decreased the likelihood of an accidental explosion, and rumors of war were rife. Through the tense weeks McKinley and his cabinet handled the dangerous situation with delicacy and self-possession.

As relations grew more strained, the government perfected its plans for moving troops to coast defenses, purchased new battleships, and ordered all American warships home. On March 19th fifteen cars of soldiers, light artillery pieces, and horses passed through Macon *en route* from Fort Riley, Texas, to Savannah. One thousand Macon people were at the depot to greet them.

On March 9th resolutions calling for the complete independence of Cuba and a declaration of war against Spain were introduced in the House and Senate. Violent national protest met McKinley's continued efforts for a peaceful settlement, and public sentiment for an aggressive policy seemed irrepressible. In Macon, Mr. Ben L. Jones organized the Advance Guards, the first volunteer company in Georgia for the sole purpose of fighting Spain. A negro company was organized here by Sam Elliott. Senator Bacon, convinced that the South would bear the brunt of a war in loss of life, taxes, and exposure to yellow fever, worked diligently for peace. A survey of local opinion revealed a consensus in favor of peace but ready to do its duty in war. The Chamber of Commerce passed resolutions endorsing Senator Bacon's peace efforts.

Despite much talk of arbitration, the House of Representatives on April 15th passed resolutions directing the President to immediate intervention in Cuba, but the Senate postponed action. Regular troops were ordered distributed at Tampa, Mobile, and New Orleans. The entire Fort McPherson (Atlanta) garrison left for Tampa, and General Miles made Atlanta his headquarters. On April 16th the Senate passed resolutions for armed intervention, and on April 21st President McKinley sent an ultimatum to Spain. On the same day Minister Woodford left Spain, and war was declared by Spain April 24, 1898.

The President called for 125,000 volunteers and the demand on Georgia was over 3,000. Col. Charles Wiley, of Macon, was summoned to the Governor's conference. Governor Atkinson decided not to send any regiments complete from the organized companies, but to make up what was needed from all. Three regiments were organized: the First Georgia, under Col. A. R. Lawton, of Savannah; the Second Georgia, under Col. Oscar J. Brown, of the regular army; and the Third Georgia, under Col. John S. Candler, of Atlanta, and—later—under Col. Robert L. Berner, of Forsyth.

In Macon Alderman Pearsons introduced resolutions offering the government the use of Central City Park, Tatnall Square, or the city reserve for mobilization of troops. Major Owen T. Kenan was appointed senior major of the Georgia Volunteer Troops and ordered to report at once. The Macon military companies met to decide upon action. Forty members of the Macon Guards (formerly the Macon Light Infantry) voted to enlist; Macon Hussars awaited the decision of Captain Bell; the Floyd Rifles agreed to enlist as a company if Captain Winship received a commission; Captain Hunter, of the Macon Volunteers, awaited orders from headquarters. Each regiment was to be composed of twelve companies, and each company was to have three commissioned officers and not less than seventy-seven or more than eighty-one men. Macon's quota was three companies, and

Major Kenan chose Captain Winship, of the Floyd Rifles; Captain Bell, of the Hussars; and Captain Stevens, of the Guards. Captain Hunter and the Volunteers were left out. Major Kenan commanded the first battalion of this regiment with four companies under him, three of which were the Macon companies and one the Perry Rifles.

On May 5th a barbecue was tendered the companies under Major Kenan at Ocmulgee Park. All Georgia volunteers were to be mobilized at Griffin. The colored citizens in mass meeting petitioned for the right to enlist. Captain Hunter was ordered to join the battalion being formed by Col. J. F. Brooks, of Savannah, and enlistments of Macon Volunteers immediately began. Macon citizens took up a collection and gave all Macon soldiers money to have before their army pay started and pledged themselves to support the families of any soldier whose departure would leave his family in need. On May 8th Major Kenan's battalion left Macon for Camp Northen, Griffin. It was made up of the following:

The Macon Hussars:

Captain Bell, First Lt. G. L. Snowden, Second Lt. C. B. White, Staff Sgt. J. C. Hoke, Sgts. F. R. Jones, H. J. Smith, L. Massenburg, C. Ellis, Corporals F. H. Daniel, W. W. Smith, T. E. Hollis, Trumpeter H. E. Reynolds, 100 men.

The Macon Guards:

Captain Stevens, First Lt. James A. Thomas, Jr., Second Lt. William H. Tucker, First Sgt. J. O. Wall, Corporals J. C. Ellis, O. W. Hayes, J. W. Aiken, and W. P. Bracken. Eighty-three men.

The Floyd Rifles:

Captain Blanton Winship, First Lt. W. E. Saunders, Second Lt. Walter P. Corbett. Non-commissioned officers were to be appointed later. Eighty-three men.

The companies formed and marched to the depot to the music of Card's band and the cheers of citizens, who had lined the streets to wave the boys off.

On May 10th the Volunteers were ordered to Griffin, and the former members of the company honored them with a banquet. This company, led by Captain Hunter, included seventy-five members. The officers were: First Lt. Granville Conner, Second Lt. L. Robert Hazlehurst, First Sgt. T. P. Bunkley, Sgts. W. R. Wooten, Joseph Preston, Lawrence Brown, and Dunwody; Corporals Walker, Dunwody, Juhan, and Martin. These soldiers, like the other Macon companies, were first encamped at Griffin. Many Macon boys wrote of the great popularity of their Chaplain, Ed. F. Cook.

Georgia was given an additional quota of 600 men in June. In Macon, the Soldiers' Relief Association was formed at the instigation of Mrs. Mallory Taylor. Its officers were: president—Mrs. S. R. Jaques;

first vice-president—Mrs. A. Collins; second vice-president—Mrs. Chapman; treasurer—Mrs. Ross White; secretary—Miss Darragh. One of the chief projects of the organization was to meet the hospital trains that passed through Macon and carry milk and food to the wounded or sick soldiers. Col. Ray's regiment of Immunes, all mustered in from Southern states, rendezvoused at Central City Park. In June Governor Atkinson announced the appointment of Lt. Col. Robert L. Berner, of Forsyth, as commander of the Georgia Third. Macon officers were Captain Robert Hodges and First Lt. Walter Harris. Macon claimed to have furnished more soldiers for its population than any city in the United States. Since the first call one regular cavalry company of 100 men and one regular negro cavalry company had been organized here. Macon had sent one major, six captains, eleven first lieutenants and three second lieutenants.

On August 6th the Third Georgia (Immunes) left Macon for Savannah, where they were to embark for Cuba. The fighting in Cuba was by this time practically finished, and many people—among them Senator Bacon—bitterly resented sending these youth, who were not immune to tropical fevers, to the infested island. They sailed August 9th on the transport *Minnewaski.* The First Georgia Regiment, in which were the four Macon companies, was sent first to Camp Chickamauga and then to Knoxville.

In August, 1898, James H. Blount, Jr., was appointed Judge Advocate for the district of Santiago, Cuba. In March, 1900, he was transferred to the Philippines.

From time to time *The Telegraph* published long and interesting letters from Sgt. P. H. Gambrell, of the Second Battalion of the Third Regiment. These letters not only furnished interesting bits of news concerning Macon boys in Cuba, but also included observations concerning the island and the character of its inhabitants.

In September announcement was made that the Georgia First, with its four Macon companies, would be mustered out here. These companies had never seen action, but provision was made for transferring all who wished to remain in the army to the Georgia Third. The Georgia Third was mustered out at Savannah. Extensive plans were made for welcoming the returning soldiers, and when they arrived (September 24th) Macon ladies carried baskets of delicacies all day to Central City Park. At the gates to the park, cannons roared and a band played "Dixie."

During that fall Macon was chosen, along with several other Southern cities, for winter encampments to acclimate returning soldiers. Four negro regiments camped on the Huff property, while two white regiments were located on the Ocmulgee Company property. In Decem-

ber Custer's Tenth Cavalry Regiment arrived to winter at Central City Park.

On December 19, 1898, President McKinley and his party spent three hours in Macon, reviewing the two brigades that were stationed here. Gen. Joseph Wheeler cooperated with the civic committee headed by Judge Speer in perfecting arrangements for the occasion. Fifteen carriages of dignitaries, 400 Confederate veterans, and 200 veterans of the recent war were included in the procession which met the President at the depot. A reviewing stand was erected at Second and Cherry. The troops formed along Fourth Street and up Mulberry to Spring, where the inspection was conducted. Residences and business houses were festively decorated for this celebration, which commemorated the victory over Spain. One of the highlights of the day was the presentation by Col. Wiley of a parchment expressing to the President the veterans' gratitude for his care of the Confederate dead. Macon felt that this was a final symbol of the healing of old wounds.

Early the following year Ray's Third Immunes were ordered from Cuba to Macon. They arrived here April 9, 1899, and were mustered out soon after that date.

The long expected rupture between Americans and Filipinos came on February 5, 1899, when Aguinaldo's troops attacked Americans. Macon's most direct interest in the following struggle lay in the heroism of Lt. Emory Winship, assistant engineer of *The Bennington,* a gunboat stationed at Manila. Lt. Winship, in charge of the boat crew attempting to land a Gatling gun from the gunboat near Malabon, was covering the landing of a reconnaissance party, when the insurgents gave unexpected resistance. Alone, he manned the launch's gun, fired a splendid line of shots at the enemy, was himself hit five times, but never left his gun and continued firing to cover the embarking battalion. He saved 125 men from what might have been serious casualties and nobody knew about his wounds until hours after the incident. When Lt. Winship returned home in July, the city presented him a jeweled sword.

C—*The Bench and Bar*

No group of men played a more important part in the history of the city than its lawyers and judges. Although many of them have been mentioned in the foregoing topic, a review of Macon government would not be complete without listing these men and some of the more important cases which they tried.

1.—Judges and Lawyers (1870-1900)

John J. Gresham, E. A. Nisbet, R. S. Lanier, R. W. Jemison, R. F. Lyon, James Jackson, W. K. de Graffenried, H. W. Coles, Carlton B. Cole, A. W. Pearson, E. F. Best, R. W. Stubbs, R. A. Nisbet, Sidney

Lanier, M. B. Guerry, L. N. Whittle, L. D. Irwin, John B. Weems, T. J. Simmons, John P. Fort, T. B. Gresham, J. E. Schofield, Washington Poe, Washington Poe, Jr., Augustus O. Bacon (five times successively elected Speaker of State House; United States Senator).

These men had been practicing for some years when the period covered by this chapter opened. They had been the leaders of the community during and after the war. Some of them had died before 1880. Others continued through these twenty years to give of their intellect and time whenever the welfare of Macon or Georgia was at stake.

J. A. McManus (Ordinary); James H. Blount (for twenty years United States Congressman); Isaac Hardeman; W. A. Lofton (Solicitor-General, Bibb legislator); Walter B. Hill ("Scholar of the Georgia Bar", pioneer of the Prohibition movement, Chancellor of the University of Georgia); N. E. Harris (Bibb legislator, "Father of Georgia Tech", Judge of the Superior Court, subsequently Governor of Georgia); John C. Rutherford (attorney for the defense in the famous Woolfolk case); C. L. Bartlett (Bibb legislator, Judge of Superior Court; for twenty years national congressman).

Weston Patterson (Bibb legislator, City Attorney); Washington Dessau (considered Macon's and one of Georgia's most brilliant and successful lawyers); Judge T. J. Simmons (Judge of Superior Court and Associate Justice of Supreme Court); Judge John Erskine (Federal Court, held in Macon); Judge Emory Speer (transferred headquarters of Southern District of the Georgia Federal Court to Macon. Known as one of Georgia's most eloquent and graceful speakers. Presided here for thirty-three years); Judge George W. Gustin (Judge of Superior Court).

Judge Wm. H. Felton (Solicitor-General, Judge of Superior Court for nearly twenty years); Buford M. Davis; C. A. Turner; Dupont Guerry (United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, later ardent Prohibitionist and President of Wesleyan College); Joe Hill Hall; Robert Hodges (Bibb legislator); Clem P. Steed; Olin J. Wimberly; John P. Ross (Judge of City Court); James L. Anderson; John L. Hardeman (Solicitor-General, Judge of Superior Court); Hugh Vernon Washington; John Walter Robinson; Alexander Proudfit (Referee in Bankruptcy); Minter Wimberly (City Attorney); Claude Estes; Marmaduke G. Bayne; A. L. Miller (Judge of Superior Court).

Samuel Hall (Associate Justice of Supreme Court); Thad G. Holt (Judge of the County Court until 1884, when City Court was created); John I. Hall; Charles M. Wiley (Ordinary for thirty-three years); Charles J. Harris (Judge of City Court); Warren D. Nottingham (Judge of City Court); Charles C. Kibbee, Hope Polhill, William

Bronson, Walter J. Grace, Arthur Dasher, R. V. Hardeman, Hubert Estes, W. D. McNeill, Sam B. Hunter, Andrew W. Lane, S. A. Reid, Matt R. Freeman, Thomas B. West, Robert L. Berner, James H. Blount, Jr., Tracy Baxter, Ed. A. Cohen, Nat Harris, Jr., Marion W. Harris, J. W. Preston, R. E. Starrs, Pope S. Hill.[20]

2—Famous Cases

Macon is a city of paradox. With its traditional love of beauty, its numerous educational and cultural institutions, its warm hospitality, and its deep Christianity—it has yet been shocked by some of the most sensational crimes that ever shook a provincial community. These will not be treated in lurid detail, but those civil and criminal cases that attracted national attention during this period will be briefly listed.

The Woolfolk Case: Thomas G. Woolfolk was accused of the murder, in 1887, of eight members of his family and one visitor. He was first tried before Judge Gustin with Col. Rutherford chief defense lawyer and J. L. Hardeman prosecuting for the State. Col. Rutherford's summation and appeal to the jury lasted twelve hours and was considered the most brilliant defense ever heard in Georgia. (1888) The Supreme Court ordered a new trial, which was held in March, 1889. This resulted in mistrial. A change of venue to Houston County was ordered. The third trial started June 3rd with Solicitor Felton assisting Hardeman and others in the prosecution. This trial also broke down, and a new one was started. Woolfolk was sentenced to be hanged on August 16th. The case was again appealed to the Supreme Court of Georgia in June, 1890. On October 7th Judge Gober, acting for Judge Miller, resentenced him. He was finally hanged in Perry. Nearly ten years later a negro criminal, Simon Cooper, was lynched in South Carolina; in his memorandum book was found this note: "Tom Woolfolk was mighty slick, but I fixed him. I would have killed him with the rest of the d - - m family, but he was not at home."[21]

Adams: A case of deep tragedy and drama enlisted Macon's sympathy in February, 1888, when young John L. Adams, of prominent and honorable family, confessed to forgery and swindling, which had resulted in his father's ruin. Filled with remorse, he inflicted upon himself the hardest penance—starvation. Obdurate to the entreaties of friends and family, he fasted for twenty-six days and died.

Conspiracy case against Hall, Lancaster, and others: This was considered one of the most remarkable trials ever known in the annals of the United States Court of this district. Judge Speer presided and "Major" Bacon was the leading lawyer for the defense. This was a perjury case which developed from the *Norman W. Dodge* vs. *L. L. Williams et al* trial. After an eleven-day trial, Luther A. Hall was

20. Orville Park, Bench and Bar of Macon, 1823-1923, Macon News Supplement, July 10, 1929.
21. The Macon Telegraph, November 7, 1898.

found guilty of perjury. Working with Mr. Bacon on the case was Mr. Washington Dessau. It was considered one of the most difficult and hopeless cases ever undertaken by a Georgia lawyer.

The Nobles Case: This famous case was of interest to Macon because Mrs. Nobles, who was accused of having murdered her husband on June 22, 1895, in Twiggs County, was kept in the Bibb jail for 1,003 days. This case, first tried at Jeffersonville, had more legal metamorphoses than any case on record. Mrs. Nobles, with Fambles, who was implicated with her, was finally able to get her death sentence commuted.

Civil Cases: The most famous civil cases involved business litigation during the depression years and have been mentioned in that topic. Some of the most important of these were: Rowena M. Clarke versus the Central Railroad and Banking Company; the famous creditors bill of J. S. McTighe and Company *et al* versus the Macon Construction Company. "The three railroads owned by the Macon Construction Company were taken charge of by the receiver appointed by Judge Miller and were administered under the McTighe Bill. Gustin, Guerry, and Hall represented the defendant corporation and the receiver, and Judge Charles C. McKibee, formerly of the Oconee Circuit, who had recently come to Macon from Hawkinsville, was appointed Master in the case and the well nigh innumerable interventions were referred to him. Almost every firm practicing in the Macon Bar and many noted lawyers from other cities represented some interest in this great case, which continued for years to occupy the chief place on the docket of the Superior Court."[22]

SECTION III

CIVIC GROWTH AND IMPROVEMENT

A—*Population*

A city directory, published by J. W. Burke Company in 1880, credited Macon with 20,292 people, of whom 10,619 were white and 9,673 colored. The federal census, however, gave the city only 12,500, since the suburbs were not at that time included in the city. By 1885 the total city and suburban population had reached 22,000. According to the national census of 1890, Macon's population was 22,746. Local counts in 1899 gave the city credit for 37,500.

The Macon Telegraph boasted in March, 1887: "For the past ten years Macon's population has grown at the rate of 1,000 per year."[23] Such claims seemed invalid when the city limits extended only within a radius of one mile of the court house, and earnest agitation was begun

22. Orville Park, Ibid.
23. The Macon Telegraph, March 9, 1887.

to extend the limits to include Vineville, Pleasant Hill, Unionville, Mechanicsville, South Macon, East Macon, Bassets' Hill, Windsor Hill, Troup Hill, and Enterprise. Although a few Vineville residents favored annexation, most residents of this and of all suburbs bitterly opposed it. By 1895 the question of annexation, which had for ten years been unenthusiastically advocated, began to assume more serious proportions. Vineville, which was growing very fast, was eager for sewers and electric lights, but large property owners were loath to assume the burden of taxation. In September, 1897, at a mass meeting presided over by Dr. W. F. Holt, Judge Speer summarized the objections of the anti-annexation faction, and Vineville citizens voted thirty-five to six to ask the State Legislature for a charter which would make them an independent corporation with a three-fourths per cent tax rate. This bill, opposed by Bibb legislators, was killed in committee.

Early in 1898 Alderman Huthenance introduced resolutions in City Council to initiate an intensive campaign for a Greater Macon, in order to swell the city's population in the 1900 census. The Chamber of Commerce appointed a committee to study the best plan for annexing the suburbs. The suburbs appointed committees to confer with the Chamber of Commerce and the Council committees. Messrs. George A. Smith, Bridges Smith, C. A. Turner, Gus Long, M. H. Cutler, and John P. Ross formulated an annexation plan, which was unanimously adopted by the joint Committee of Thirty. Mr. I. B. English headed a sub-committee on boundaries, and Judge John P. Ross drew up the petition to Council asking for an annexation election. The Young Men's Annexation Club was formed with the following officers: president—Merrell P. Calloway, vice-president—Basil A. Wise, secretary—Malcolm H. Ayer, and treasurer—O. A. Park.

Just when it seemed that the long-debated question of incorporation would be happily settled, a series of injunctions, enjoiners, and suits again obstructed it. On March 28th Judge Felton enjoined the election on the grounds that South Macon, which opposed annexation, was included in the same election with Vineville, Huguenin Heights, and East Macon, where sentiment favoring it predominated. The case was appealed, and nothing more was done until December, when the State Legislature passed a bill authorizing the qualified voters in the affected areas to express their wishes at the polls. All efforts of the Greater Macon enthusiasts failed to achieve incorporation, and the 1900 census figure—21,661—showed a loss in Macon of 1,085. Bibb County's population was 50,473. If annexation had been effected, Macon would have shown a gain of sixty-three per cent.

B—*Civic Organizations*

Ever watchful of the city's welfare and working with city and county officials for improvement were several civic organizations. Most

energetic and effective of these was the Board of Trade (later called the Chamber of Commerce), whose work in industrial development has been discussed.[24] Announcement was made in 1883 that Mr. S. R. Jaques was working to reorganize the old Board of Trade into a modern Chamber of Commerce. He stated that the object of the organization would be ". . . . to inculcate and promote just and equitable principles of trade, to establish and maintain uniformity in commercial usages, to watch over and protect the trading interests of Macon, to acquire, preserve, and disseminate valuable business information." At the reorganization meeting in June Mr. W. H. Ross was elected president, Mr. S. R. Jaques vice-president, Mr. S. T. Coleman second vice-president, and Messrs. J. F. Hanson, H. J. Johnson, W. Doody, C. B. Willingham, R. H. Plant, and Thomas W. Conner directors. For many years the old name, Board of Trade, continued in use. Other men who served during this period as presidents were: Messrs. S. R. Jaques, Ben C. Smith, and R. E. Park.

Many affiliates of the Board of Trade were organized in connection with special projects. Among the more important were the Ocmulgee Water Canal and Power Company, the Macon Navigation Company, and the Bureau of Information. Many other organizations worked closely with the Board of Trade for the improvement of the community. Among these were: the Industrial Company (succeeding the old Real Estate and Improvement Company, and working under the leadership of Mr. W. G. Solomon for a canal and for attracting small industries); the Progress Improvement Company; the Progress Loan, Improvement, and Manufacturing Company (originated by Mr. Henry Horne and owned by 300 shareholders); and the Organized Charity Association (organized through the efforts of Messrs. R. E. Park, Robert Adams, Isaac Hardeman, W. W. Carnes, Bridges Smith, cooperating with the officers of The King's Daughters, and led by a central board which was made up of: Mrs. A. E. Boardman, Mrs. Isaac Hardeman, Mrs. T. S. Jones, Capt. John R. West, Mrs. W. W. Ford, Mrs. L. W. Kennedy, Mrs. E. D. Huguenin, Mrs. W. T. Johnston, Dr. John Ingalls, Mrs. Joseph Dannenberg, Mrs. J. H. Hertz).

In 1892 another movement to strengthen the Board of Trade was begun. The Bureau of Information was revived, with Mr. R. E. Park serving as president, and Messrs. G. C. Price and E. S. Wilson as other officers. The Bureau of Information circulated a quarter million pages of printed matter advertising Macon, and maintained an agent in Richmond, Virginia.

C—*Building and Remodeling*

Another indication of growth during the period is to be found in the building and expansion program. A complete list of the new homes

24. See Section I—Business.



Macon Homes

constructed during the era would be both impossible and cumbersome. Mention has already been made of the remarkable development in the suburbs of Huguenin Heights, Vineville, and South Macon. During the last years of the century another suburb, Melrose, which is today's North Highlands, was developed on the Bacon and Sparks property across the river. Among the pretentious homes built during this period were: the Jaques home (College and Forsyth), the Johnston home (Cowles Hill next to the Cowles-Coleman home), the J. W. Cabaniss home (Orange Street).

An innovation which proved of great practical value was the marking of streets and the numbering of houses. The project was begun February 28, 1880, and completed May 27, 1887.

The following important public buildings were constructed during this period of transition:[25]

1. *New County Jail*—on vacant portion of courthouse lot on Mulberry Street. Begun 1880 and completed 1884 at cost of $30,000. George S. Obear, Chairman Board of Commissioners. Contractors,

25. The list does not include business houses already mentioned or building projects discussed more fully under this topic.

Hendrix, Willingham, Johnston & Fred. Addition built in 1892.

2. *Odd Fellows Hall* (Colored)—Cotton Avenue. 1880.

3. *Expansion of Wesleyan*—Under the $50,000 Seney gift. 1880.

4. *St. Paul's Church*—Gothic structure at corner of Forsyth and Cotton. Planned in 1880. Completed 1884.

5. *Alexander School*—1880. Approximate cost $15,000.

6. *Compress and Warehouse*—Completed in October, 1883.

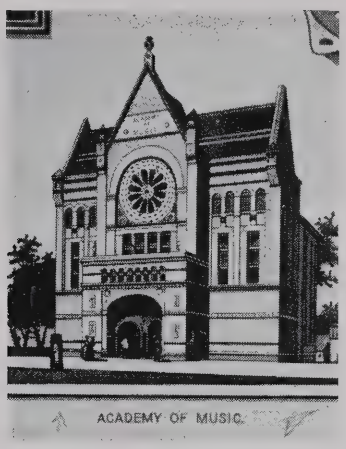
7. *Volunteers' Armory*—Begun in October, 1883 and completed 1884. Corner First and Poplar. Cost: $20,000. Committee in charge: S. R. Jaques, A. R. Tinsley, Capt. W. W. Carnes, D. B. Woodruff, and A. Block. Woodruff, architect.

8. *City Market House*—Agitated for many years. Citizens voted two to one for its construction on January 10, 1884. Most tireless worker for it, Mr. Alexander Proudfit. Bill for amending charter to authorize mayor to build it introduced by Mr. Felton, November 20, 1886, and passed December 27th. Market Commission, elected March 15, 1887, included: A. Proudfit, Robert H. Smith, H. T. Powell, J. F. Hanson, and Wm. H. Ross. Bond election, held April 23, 1887, carried; and $20,000 worth of five per cent interest bonds to be paid in thirty years provided funds for the structure. Built by Hendrix and Willingham on Poplar between First and Second. Architect, D. B. Woodruff. Completed March 8, 1888.

9. *Federal Building*—Postoffice, federal offices of revenue department, federal court. Editorials urging construction of such a building began appearing consistently in 1884, when the United States court occupied the third floor of a Cherry Street building, and the revenue offices the second floor rooms in *The Telegraph and Messenger* building. The federal government appropriated $125,000 for the lot and building. Commissioners for the project included: Messrs. C. L. Bartlett, F. S. Johnson, J. H. Campbell, S. B. Price, N. R. Winship, W. R. Singleton, G. S. Jones. They purchased from Dr. J. S. Baxter the corner lot at Mulberry and Third. In February, 1886, Mr. Woodruff was chosen superintendent of the work. The postoffice was moved into its new quarters March 12, 1889. By 1900 Macon had grown so much that money for enlarging the original structure was appropriated by the national government.

10. *Academy of Music*—Completed September 14, 1884. Mr. Alexander Blair, architect; Mr. Smith, superintendent; Mr. S. R. Jaques, manager of finance. Located on Mulberry Street on lot adjoining the court house, it was ". . . a model of elegance and a triumph of good taste . . . the prettiest amusement house in the South outside of New Orleans."[26] Owned by a joint stock company which was made up of J. F. Hanson, S. R. Jaques, L. A. Jordan and others. In 1886 it was

26. The Macon Telegraph, September 14, 1884.



Theatre

owned by "Col." Lee A. Jordan and managed by Mr. Henry Horne. It was later sold to Mr. Horne and L. De Give, of Atlanta. Built at a cost of $75,000.

11. *Passenger and Freight Depot of the East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia Railroad.*—Brick structure on Fifth and Wharf. Interior of Georgia pine. Cost $16,000.

12. *Gresham High School*—Corner Cotton and Spring. 1888. Cost $20,000.

13. *New Dormitory and Hospital for Academy for the Blind.*—Bill providing for the addition introduced in the State Legislature by Mr. W. A. Huff. The Academy was at that time located on Orange Street between Washington and High.

14. *Macon Public Library*—Campaign to raise funds was begun in November, 1888 by the Macon Public Library and Historical Association. Plans were submitted January 29, 1889 by D. B. Woodruff, architect. Built on Mulberry Street across from the Academy of Music. Three-story brick structure.

15. *City Jail*—Complaints had been made through the press and other channels for several years before definite steps for a new jail were taken. Plans were submitted April 1, 1890. Adjoining the city hall. Two-story structure. Contained twelve cells.

16. *City Hospital*—See Eleemosynary Institutions.

17. *Pythian Castle*—Plans for the campaign were announced January 28, 1891. The project failed and was again undertaken in 1897. Site next to Public Library on Mulberry. Three-story building. Completed in 1891.

18. *Crematory*—Opened July 24, 1891.

19. *Y.M.C.A.*—Campaign for new home was started in July, 1892,

revived in 1897. Located on former Marks property at corner of First and Cherry. Formally opened October 5, 1900.

20. *New Firehouse*—Plans submitted September 3, 1894. First Street.

21. *G.S.&F. Freight Depot, Offices, and Warehouse*—Extended from Fifth Street back to the alley and from Plum across to Pine. Work was begun in 1896.

22. *Bridges Across the Ocmulgee*—See River Transportation.

23. *Price Free Library*—Two-story brick building donated for the Price Free Library and Night School by Mr. T. J. Carling in 1899. Corner Arch and First.

24. *St. Joseph's Church (Catholic)*—The building was not completed during these years, but it was planned and much of the work on it was done at this time. On Poplar Street. Estimated cost $50,000.

25. *Washington Avenue Presbyterian Church (Colored)*—1886.

D—*Utilities*

1—Water

No feature of Macon's history had more vital interest during these years, nor seems duller in retrospect, than the ever-recurring problem of water supply. Late in March, 1880, *The Telegraph and Messenger's* editor called attention to Macon's urgent need of cheap and plentiful water, lamenting that—despite constant efforts—the city was then no better off than it had been forty years before. At that time (1880) the only system was owned by the Macon Gas Light and Water Company, and utilized two springs in front of the college and one on the grounds of Mr. William B. Johnston. From these springs small iron pipes conducted the water down Mulberry and Cherry, supplying the city cisterns with a meager amount of water. In July of that year the Macon Gas Light and Water Company purchased property and secured right of way to utilize the streams issuing from Tuft Springs, several miles from town on the Brunswick Road, and to build a reservoir on Troup Hill 130 feet above the Second Street level. To finance these improvements the directors issued $75,000 worth of six per cent bonds secured by a second mortgage. The brick and cement reservoir, 200 by 100 feet and 12 or 15 feet deep, had a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons. The city contract, signed February 10, 1881, provided for payment of $5,180 or for fifty-three hydrants at $60 each—to take effect at completion of the reservoir at Second and Boundary. Great interest in the construction of the reservoir, the installation of the pump, and the laying of the pipes and fire plugs was evident in the large number of news stories concerning progress of the work. The water mains were laid on New, First, Second, Third, Fourth, from Oak to Poplar, from Boundary to Walnut, and from Poplar to Mulberry.

In 1883 the water works company, under the direction of Mr. A. E. Boardman, extended the system to serve residents of "The Hill". A tower was built on Chickamauga Park at the head of High Street and three cisterns were located near the head of Magnolia Street. Macon took great pride in the satisfactory functioning of the improved system, boasting that the full Chickamauga tank could supply sufficient water for thirty-five streams for three hours and not deprive private consumers. The tower system included twelve miles of main pipes with fifty-three fire hydrants in the lower and twenty-three in the upper systems. In 1884 Vineville citizens, under the leadership of Mr. A. J. Lamar, started a campaign to extend the water system to their suburb.

The satisfaction with this water system was short lived. In the summer of 1884 citizens became alarmed by the danger of contaminated water because of the nearness to Tuft Springs of a negro cemetery.

The city's contract came up for renewal in 1887. There was much antagonism to the water company because of their exorbitant rates, and the renewal failed to carry in City Council in March. The people demanded a more abundant supply. In May, 1887, announcement was made that the ridge beyond Waterville had many springs, which would flow by gravity into the reservoir, swelling Macon's supply to 4,500,000 gallons. Uneasiness subsided. On June 17th a competing gas company, owned by Mr. Jesse W. Starr, of Philadelphia, was given by the City Council the right to lay water mains. Finally, on June 29th the Council adopted a five-year contract[27] with the Macon Gas Light and Water Company despite the bitter opposition of Alderman Horne, who thought a competing company would insure better service and cheaper rates. Macon residents still complained that "a narrow gauge monopoly was robbing them by charging them triple a just price."

In 1888 a petition signed by the best merchants and the heaviest tax payers urged City Council to install an effective sprinkling system, but Council took no action. Renewed complaints against the water were heard in March of 1890, when impurities were detected. Mr. Thomas W. Troy planned to drill two artesian wells—one at the brewery and one on his Vineville property. "In June Council failed to approve a water bill for $2,000, giving as the reason: 'Contract violated, insufficient water pressure; supply inadequate; water from Tuft Springs insufficient and while no reflection on management is intended, we must look around and overcome the difficulty'."[28] The Board of Trade endorsed Council's action and the Macon Canal and

27. Hydrants—$50 each for as many as fifty.
For sewers and sprinkling—Ten cents per 100,000 gallons.
Drinking founts—$50 each.
One faucet—$10, $3 for each additional one.
Meter rate—30 cents per 1,000 gallons.
Meter rental—$3 per year.
28. News Supplement, July 10, 1929, p. 18.

Water Company announced its intention of bidding for the new contract.

On January 1, 1891, it became known that there were only twelve inches of water in the reservoir, and Manager Wilcox, of the Macon Gas Light and Water Company, blamed the slim supply on consumers' waste. Hope for relief came in February when it was learned that the Jeter-Boardman Association had bought the gas and water plant heretofore controlled by Mr. George F. Work and that they planned to spend $200,000 on improvements. The new board of the reorganized company included: Messrs. W. A. Jeter, R. L. Henry, J. S. Baxter, A. D. Schofield, A. E. Boardman, J. M. Wilcox, and J. B. Hall. Mr. Boardman was elected president and treasurer, Mr. W. A. Jeter, vice-president, Mr. J. W. Wilcox, manager, and Mr. J. B. Hall, secretary.

Great indignation was felt in May, 1891, when it was learned that the Jeter-Boardman Company was pumping water from the Ocmulgee into the reservoir. The Board of Trade called a special meeting for discussing the water crisis, and agreed that, although too much water was being used for lawns and sprinkling, Macon did not want river water. A Board of Trade committee made up of Messrs. R. M. Rogers, T. D. Tinsley, George T. Harris, Joseph Dannenberg, and Arthur L. Wood reported favorably on municipal ownership of the water system. The Jeter-Boardman Association immediately announced plans for constructing, 100 feet from the river, ten or twelve wells, and using natural filters of sand, gravel, and clay. The new system was to cost $100,000, and, by increasing the supply to 5,000,000 gallons a day, would prevent further water famines. On June 26th the Ocmulgee's waters were turned into the entire system of water mains, and City Attorney Patterson threatened prosecution of the water company. Three days later the city of Macon and "thirteen of her best and most influential citizens"[29] sued the Macon Gas Light and Water Company for $133,000, claiming breach of contract for pure water. City and consulting engineers studied the water supply from Tuft Springs, Peter's Pond, the swamp, the Ocmulgee, Swift Creek, and Boggy Branch. On July 21st the Citizens' Bill, giving the city power to issue bonds for the erection of its own water works (subject to passage by the State Legislature) was endorsed by Council. The bill, in changed form, calling for the issuance of $350,000 worth of bonds for the construction of a system not to exceed $412,000 was passed in August. The Water Commission was created at the same time. Heavy opposition to the Citizens' Bill came from the water company stockholders, who were seeking to escape the consequences of the Work regime.[30]

29. The Macon Telegraph, June 29, 1891.

30. Mr. Work, a Philadelphia capitalist, had purchased controlling stock of The Consumers' Gas Light and Water Company and The Macon Gas Light and Water Company and had combined them. He also bought The Macon Electric Light Company and the two Macon Street Railway companies and combined them. He sold $150,000 worth of water bonds, pocketed the money, issued and floated bonds on all his enterprises, and—having cleared $200,000—lost interest in them. At the time of this election—August, 1891—he was in the penintentiary serving time for various illegal practices.

In the State Legislature Mr. W. A. Huff opposed the bill. Macon citizens felt that the Macon Gas Light and Water Company was notoriously insolvent, and that the Jeter-Boardman syndicate which controlled it had treated the city with reckless and arbitrary tyranny. Consumers were forced to pay quarterly in advance; for hours at a time the whole water supply would be cut off; Macon property was at the mercy of flames; and water which the Health Department declared a hazard was turned into the mains. Mr. Jeter made repeated promises to improve the situation. It would improve briefly only to revert to its former unsatisfactory state. The people were thoroughly aroused and ready to end the monopoly by owning their own system.

The movement to build a municipal water system did not succeed, and on November 24, 1891, City Council approved the new contract with the Macon Gas Light and Water Company, having secured by the controversy a reduction of $14,000 per year in the rates. However, the Citizens' Bill had passed and the city was in a position to vote bonds for its own water system should the old company again fail to give satisfaction. The contract was to run for twenty-five years with the city reserving the right at any time to purchase the corporation.

In December, 1891, an experiment looking still toward city ownership was made with a Morrison-Allen water filter. The river water thus filtered ran crystal clear. In January of the following year the water contract was amended to provide scale rates for manufacturing purposes. In the same month a city bond election for a municipal water system was overwhelmingly lost. In March, 1892, a rate war resulted in the water corporation's making $100,000 bond for faithful execution of their contract—a bond which was considered worthless by many men, as it was signed by the corporation's own officials. When water rates doubled, Mr. J. F. Hanson refused to pay. Further dissatisfaction was revealed in 1892 when Col. A. J. Thomas asked for a receivership for the Macon Gas Light and Water Company and when citizens petitioned Council to take action.

Impatience with the water company reached a climax at an indignation meeting in March, 1893, when the citizens requested the city to break the contract with the company and to float $400,000 worth of bonds or to force the company to grant equal and reasonable rates. The following month another petition for a receivership was filed. A committee made up of representatives from City Council and from the Board of Trade was appointed to meet with the officials of the Macon Gas Light and Water Company in an effort to settle the difficulty amicably. In May, 1893, Mr. Jeter offered to sell Macon the water plant for $550,000. Mr. J. F. Hanson, Mr. T. D. Tinsley, and Mr. George T. Harris, who were appointed to consider the offer, later

reported that it was worth $228,000. On July 11th the city gave notice of its intention of purchasing the plant. In the same month Council appointed Mr. B. S. Church (New York) and Mr. R. H. Brown as arbitrators in the matter of the water plant's value. They described it as an excellent plant and reported $550,000 a fair price. Since the city was not able to pay that amount, the report was shelved and the election was not called.

In January, 1894, the Macon Gas Light and Water Works submitted plans for the city to purchase its system for $350,000, with the city controlling seven-elevenths and a board of trustees the remaining four-elevenths of the stock; the city to fix rates and operate the company. This offer was rejected. In March the company petitioned for an election to secure the consent of the people for the purchase at $550,000. Council voted the election on April 10th, but Mayor Horne vetoed the ordinance, and the matter was dropped.

When the Macon Gas Light and Water Company defaulted in the payment of interest on its bonds (May, 1894) and owed a floating debt of $100,000, Judge Speer ruled for a receivership and appointed Mr. T. D. Tinsley to act. Receiver Tinsley, after two years management, asked the court's permission to grant $100,000 or $125,000 improvements in the water system (August 2, 1896). The Springs had failed to meet the increased demands of a growing population and the management had earlier rented a location on the river and hastily constructed a pumping station. Later they bought a twenty-five acre site two miles up the river. The old pumping station was being inundated by floods and the management planned to build on the purchased land a modern pumping station with adequate mains into the city through Vineville, to enlarge the mains inside the city, to install modern machinery, to buy an adequate filter plant connecting with the city by mains through Vineville, to relay 4,000 feet of 12-inch pipe, and to purchase 4,000 additional feet of pipe. This plan called for the issue of $225,000 of additional bonds.

In 1897 the old Winship property was purchased for the new pumping station, and new water mains were ordered laid preparatory to paving the streets. One hundred thousand dollars' worth of receivers' certificates were sold and with the proceeds one of the largest and most perfect water plants in the State was erected on the Ocmulgee river three miles above Macon.

On January 28, 1899, the Macon Gas Light and Water Company was restored to its owners and was reorganized under the leadership of Mr. Stuart Wood, of Philadelphia. Judge Speer, in ending the receivership, paid high tribute to Mr. Tinsley, under whose receivership the company had not only been rehabilitated as a solvent concern but had also given to the city what was acknowledged one of the finest water systems in the South.

2—Electricity

During the early years of this period, most public buildings and many Macon residences were lighted by gas. The first electric lights were installed December 1, 1882. On January 7, 1883, the Brush Electric Light and Power Company, of Macon, placed on the market 173 shares of capital stock, 827 of the entire 1,000 shares having already been subscribed. Mr. Henry Horne, of Macon, was the manager of this company, and all of the capital up to this point had been furnished by ten Macon citizens. Most of the stock of this company was later owned by Mr. J. H. Campbell and Mr. M. Nussbaum. The franchise was transferred March 21, 1886 from the Brush Company to the Macon Gas Light and Water Company. In 1888 the city was offered the Electric Light Works but refused to buy. From this point, the history of electric power merges with related topics, and will not be separately considered.[31]

3—Telephones

The Southern Bell Telephone Company bought Captain Carne's small telephone system in the first year of this period. At that time there were twenty-five subscribers. *The Telegraph and Messenger* listed in March, 1881, the business subscribers and announced that there were about thirty-six business establishments having telephones. Although there was much complaint of poor service during these years, the number of subscribers by 1884 had increased to 148. There was an average of about 1,000 connections a day and slightly over 81 miles of wire stretched over 260 poles. Mr. G. E. Davis was at that time manager of the Macon Exchange, which made an average yearly income for the corporation of $3,000.

The next newspaper notice concerning telephones appeared on July 7, 1885, with the announcement that Manager Mullenix had gone to Atlanta to arrange for the establishing of lines to join Macon with the cities of the Southwest. Five years later, March 29, 1890, the company said that connection with Atlanta would soon be completed, but it was not formally opened until November 24, 1894. Gradually long distance wires were placed between Macon and other neighboring cities: Rome (1895), Americus (1896), Savannah (1898). Another improvement in telephone service was made in 1898 by the installation here of a new common multiple switchboard, which relieved patrons of the necessity of pulling down a lever to connect with central.

4—Street Railways

Although Macon had been served for several years before 1880 with mule-pulled street cars, most of the lines had failed, and people still

31. See fore-going on Water and following topics on Street Railways and Ocmulgee Navigation.

relied largely on hackmen for conveyance. Throughout 1883 and early in 1884 newspapers had urged Macon to establish good lines and bring the city up to modern standards. On February 5, 1884, announcement was made of the organization of a new street car stock company by Mr. Thomas Willingham, Jr. The former street car company, of which Mr. George Obear was president, still held its original charter and two bills asking for similar charters were at that time pending in the State Legislature. Advocates of the movement for better street railways pointed out that each of the eighty-five licensed hackmen of Macon averaged $2.50 a day, which in six days would amount to $1,200. Four times as many people could be moved by street cars at one-fifth the cost.

The Macon City and Suburban Street Railroad Company was organized by Mr. Carling and Mr. Brown. Its line was formally opened to the public April 9, 1885, and could make the circuit in forty-five minutes. In October of the same year, Messrs. Carling and Brown sold their company to Major John S. Bransford, of Nashville. He planned to improve and extend it. In November he asked permission to lay double tracks and extensions to South and East Macon, and the cars were first driven through these sections on September 9, 1886. Council was eager during these years to encourage the street car company to extend to all sections, and agitation for a line to Vineville was soon begun.

Early in 1888 the Central City Company petitioned Council for right of way for a dummy line to Vineville, but action was deferred because of the vagueness of the plans. This proposed transit line was organized by four Macon men: Messrs. Hardin T. Johnson, president; S. T. Coleman, vice-president; S. A. Crump, secretary and treasurer; with these officers and Mr. E. E. Huguenin as directors. Mayor Price moved cautiously in this matter because other cities had lost many damage suits because of dummy lines. Objections to the line were raised by many residents who considered the noise and smoke from such cars obnoxious. With many reservations Council finally granted the company right of way (February 18, 1888), and the following month a contract with Haines Brothers, railroad owners and builders, was signed for the construction of the dummy line. The tracks were finished that summer and on November 5, 1888, the fist run to Suburban Park was made. The cars—about the length of a bob-tailed street car—had eight wheels and were pulled by a steam locomotive. Originally three closed cars and one open (excursion) car were to be used. The car left Mulberry, continued up Walnut to College, past Wesleyan to what is now Hardeman Avenue, up Hardeman to Vineville, out Vineville to Crump's Park.

In connection with development of the dummy line, plans were

made for an elaborate recreation park, casino, and theater on the Crump property at its terminus. The depot and one of the cars were destroyed by a storm on November 15th, and this with other misfortunes caused the plans to fail. In December the entire Haines Brothers interest in the line was sold to Messrs. Hoags, Farrar, and S. A. Crump. The following March it was again sold, this time to Colegram and Company, a New York syndicate; but Farrar and Crump retained an interest in it. Dr. Colegram, president, planned improvements and extensions, but did not plan to convert to electric power. The ill-fated dummy line suffered reverses when suit for $50,000 damages on behalf of Mrs. Mattie E. Huff and other smaller damage suits were filed.[32]

Announcement had been made in March of the sale of the Macon City and Suburban Street Car system. It was learned here in July that Mr. W. M. Duncan, of Nashville, had purchased the property from Major Bransford and had then resold it to Mr. George F. Work,[33] of Philadelphia, and to Mr. Henry Horne, of Macon. The system included the thirteen lines of belt, 110 head of mules, twenty-six cars, shops, tools, real estate, and the franchise—all of which was assessed at $79,700. "Major" Winters was to continue as manager, and the owners planned to spend $35,000 on improvements. They petitioned Council for permission to use electricty and to lay double tracks on Fourth Street. Council members, doubtful of the wisdom of electric street cars, were invited by the company to visit Nashville and inspect the electric street cars there. Some of the members made the trip and were converted to the new method. Still cautious, they demanded that before abandoning Texas mules, the Work company should build one experimental electric line. This was not satisfactory to Mr. Work because of the great expense involved. He accused the city government of obstructing progress. Finally, September 4, 1889, Council approved the contract, which granted a twenty-year franchise for electric cars. Work on the Park road was begun. On Christmas day Major Winters placed the electric cars on regular schedules. Many accidents resulted from run-away horses who were frightened by the electric cars.

The formation of a new street car company, the Metropolitan Street Railway Company of Macon, was made public May 7, 1890. It had a capital stock of $100,000. Mr. E. G. Harris was president of the company and its directors included: Messrs. E. G. Harris, Lewis A. Mitchell, W. D. Wilson, John T. Voss, and Theo W. Ellis. This made four street railway companies applying for street privileges in Macon: the Macon City and Suburban, the horse-mule company which had operated under President Work and had recently obtained a charter to

32. The Huff suit was withdrawn when the objectionable features of the line were corrected.

33. See topic on Waterworks and explanatory footnote on Mr. Work.

convert to electric power; the Metropolitan Railway Company, of East Macon and West Macon; the Horne Electric Railway Company, also an East Macon project; and the Progress Loan, Improvement, and Manufacturing Company. The first company, the one that was at this time operating, ran through Vineville to Crump's Park past the Manchester Mills to Troy. The main object of all four companies was to find a terminus in the suburbs.

The competing companies did not achieve their purpose, for early in 1891 *Telegraph* editorials complained that our street car system was the worst in the state, and attributed the fact to the Work monopoly, which held all street privileges and would neither release the franchise nor improve their property. Indignation against the monopoly increased with news of Mr. Work's arrest in Philadelphia.[34] Many rumors concerning the fate of the Macon City and Suburban Company excited Macon citizens. The Thomson-Houston Electric Company, of Boston, had a lien of $70,000 on this system and on the Central City Street Railway Company. Mr. G. W. Morse, attorney for the Thomson-Houston Electric Company, and Mr. A. O. Bacon, of Macon, represented all but about $4,000 of the floating indebtedness of both companies and prosecuted the receivership litigation. Mr. Claude Estes represented the defendants and other interests. On April 21, 1891, Mr. E. E. Winters was appointed permanent receiver for both street car companies. On April 28th Mr. George Work and W. J. Coite, of Philadelphia, resigned as directors. Mr. S. A. C. Everett was elected president and Mr. R. W. Jemison, secretary, to replace them.

While the old company was experiencing these difficulties, the Metropolitan Company was building its line to Macon's new suburb, Bellevue. Glen Melligan was enclosed in the grounds of the Log Cabin Club and a recreation hall was built there. The street car line began near the Covington and Macon Depot, came up Cherry to First to Plum to Cotton to Orange by Mt. de Sales on out to Huguenin Heights by the Napier property to Bellevue. The first street car passed over this line in February, 1892, and regular runs began on March 31st. It was a $125,000 enterprise.

Under the Winters receivership, Judge Miller gave the Suburban Company permission to proceed with building a car line from the Monument to Spring, to Mulberry, up Ocmulgee to Jones, out Jones to College, up College to Georgia Avenue, on out to Vineville. Mayor Price raised violent objections to this second line to Vineville. At the same time, patrons were dissatisfied with street car service, complaining that for long periods the whole system would be at a standstill. Receiver Winters blamed the Macon Gas Light and Water Company

34. Ibid.

for failure to provide adequate power. On February 21, 1892, an order for the public sale of the Macon City and Suburban and the Central City Street Railways gave people hope that relief might come. The system at that time had six miles of electric railway. It was sold for $105,000 to Mr. G. W. Morse, acting for the Thomson-Houston Electric Company. The new company, known as the Macon Consolidated, planned to abandon the last of the mule cars, equip all cars with electric power, and spend $100,000 on improvements.

On May 11, 1892, right of way was granted a new company, the Macon and Indian Springs Railway. It planned a rapid transit line to the city limits. With completion of this line, Macon would have nearly twenty miles of electric street rails: four miles around the belt, three out to Vineville, four to Bellevue, and nine to the city park, South Macon, West Macon, Rose Hill, and Ocmulgee Land.

Improvements in the Macon Consolidated Street Railway Company[35] progressed throughout the summer. They constructed their own power house near the park. The South Macon Electric Car system was completed March 16, 1893. It followed the same route as the old mule cars. With this addition, every suburb except East Macon had electric cars. The good street car service practically ended the hack drivers' business.

On April 22, 1893, Macon's third electric railway, the Macon and Indian Springs, began operation. The line ran four cars, two east and two west. Beginning at the Brown House on Fourth Street, it ran to Poplar to Third to Mulberry to Spring to Ocmulgee to Jones to College to Georgia Avenue to Monroe to Forsyth to Progress to Appleton Avenue to Columbus to Orange to First to Poplar back to the starting point. The Ocmulgee Park branch of this line began running July 15th.

Early in January, 1895, the Macon Consolidated, which was at that time owned by the General Electric Company, of New York, was sold to Tucker, Anthony, and Company, of Boston, for $450,000. Mr. Winters continued as manager. In the fall of the same year, the Indian Springs Railway announced plans for extending to Central City Park. In February, 1896, the Consolidated began a belt line to East Macon and Cross Keys. During this period average fare was a nickle, though in 1897 there was much agitation for reduction to a three-cent fare.

C—*Civic and County Improvements*

1—Fire Fighting

This era saw the end of one of Macon's most colorful institutions, the volunteer fire companies. During the early years of these decades the Volunteer Department continued to serve the city. In 1880 Mr.

35. The old City Suburban and The Central City Companies.

T. C. Hendrix was elected chief of the department and Mr. D. D. Craig secretary. Bibb legislators (Harris, Bacon, and Nisbet) carried through the State Legislature a law exempting firemen from jury service. In April of this year the annual competitive fire drill, parade, and demonstration were held. Visiting companies from Augusta and Griffin vied with the Macon companies in races and contests. A platform for judges and timekeepers was erected on Mulberry Street. Macon won the contest.

In the summer of 1884 *The Telegraph* called attention through its editorial page to the great waste resulting from the outmoded fire alarm system. No indication of the location of a fire was given by the general alarm of bells that was in use at that time. No change was made and attention to this fault was again brought before the public by the burning of the First Baptist Church late in 1885.

The crisis in the Fire Deprtment came early in 1887, when agitation for complete reorganization became so general that a civic committee to study the department was appointed. This committee, made up of Messrs. G. C. Conner, R. H. Smith, and W. A. Davis, recommended the city's appropriating $25,000 for a paid Fire Department. Mayor Price later submitted a plan for a paid department, which included: a chief, $800; an assistant chief, $400; three engineers at $900; three stokers at $480; three drivers for reels at $480; three drivers for engines at $480; one driver for hook and ladder at $480; one steerman, $480; for feeding horses $1,680; a total of $10,860. Under this plan the volunteer companies were to disband and three new companies would be organized. The plan called for the use of three engine houses: the Young America, Defiance, and Hook and Ladder. Each company was to include twenty-five men, of whom all except engineers, stokers, and drivers were to be volunteers.

This plan was adopted and $15,000 for its execution appropriated. At the same time permission to negotiate for an electric alarm system was voted. Macon's seven volunteer companies with their 300 men were disbanded and the new department went into operation March 17, 1887. The first company was Engine Company Number One. Mr. L. M. Jones was fire chief. In the spring of the same year the new Gamewell Alarm System with its twenty-six electric alarm boxes was installed, and a new fire engine was purchased. The second paid fire company, the Hook and Ladder, went into operation May 9th.

Improvements such as increase of equipment, construction of a new fire house, and new headquarters for firemen continued through the remaining years of this period. The paid Fire Department functioned smoothly and Macon's property loss through fire decreased greatly; but Macon still remembered with nostalgia the romantic era of the

picturesque volunteer firemen with their flower be-decked engines and gala contests.

2—Cemeteries

Frequent articles appeared in the newspapers during these years concerning sundry complaints in the management of Rose Hill Cemetery. The resulting investigations led to minor improvements such as the mapping of the cemetery, the clarification of lot ownership, regulations concerning resale of lots, and rules for the removal of bodies.

In March, 1887, a new cemetery company was organized. On July 8th Messrs. N. M. Hodgkins, A. E. Boardman, A. L. Wood, Isaac Hardeman, R. E. Park, A. D. Schofield, and T. D. Tinsley were elected life directors of the Riverside Cemetery, which was formally opened four years later, July 24, 1891.

3—Weather Bureau and Mail Delivery

Early mention of a weather bureau was made January 19, 1884, when Congressman Hardeman was asked to work for a station in Macon, the most important point in the cotton belt of Georgia. The first weather signals in Macon were established March 7, 1886, at S. R. Jaques and Company on the corner of Cherry and Fourth. This system comprised a series of flags[35] to indicate weather changes. Improvement came in 1890 with the re-establishment of a bureau with a volunteer observer, Master Polhill Wheeler, in charge. The newspaper announced in October, 1893, that Macon was to have a fully equipped weather signal station with the city clerk serving also as weather clerk. Forecasts were to be received by telegraph and the same flag system that had been employed by Jaques was to be used. In 1895 the grand jury of the United States Court incorporated into its application for improvements to the Federal Building here a request for a weather bureau. On November 9, 1898, Mr. Thomas B. Collins, of the United States Weather Bureau, established a signal station here.

Free mail delivery was introduced in Macon on the opening day of this period, January 1, 1880. The service began with five carriers. Due to the efforts of Congressman Blount, improvement in mail service was effected in 1888, when double daily delivery was begun, and when additional collection boxes were installed.

4—Streets, Parks, Sewers

So conflicting were news accounts of Macon's streets in the early eighties that accurate description of them is impossible. Many references were found to Macon's broad, beautiful streets. More rarely the editor faced reality and rebuked the city for the mud, slime, or dust

36. White—clear; blue—rain or snow; white and blue—local rains; black triangular—temperature signal; white with black square in center—cold wave.

of the thoroughfares. In 1883 the streets were reported in such bad condition that the influx of cotton was threatened. On several occasions grand juries urged improvements. It was said that the 1884 city administration did more on less money to improve street crossings than any previous one. In 1884 evidence of a clean-up campaign was seen in a city ordinance which required residents to cut down weeds on the streets and in the report of a boy's being fined $50 for throwing a rotten egg on a street. The following year the parks along Mulberry were beautified by goldenrod, planted by the Streets and Health Commission. A *Telegraph* headline (November 11, 1885) rejoiced, "The miserable sidewalks of Macon are to be paved", but it was some time before even this modest prophecy was realized.

Earnest efforts for parks, sewers, and pavement began late in 1887, when a plan was proposed for issuing bonds and letting property owners pay a share of the cost. During 1889 there was much discussion of this bond issue and heavy opposition to it. Mr. Patterson, Bibb legislator, was sponsoring the bill to provide for the bond election. Under this bill, Council would have the authority to prescribe the width of city streets, to compel property owners to make them of uniform width by encroachments, and to pay one-third of the cost of paving in front of their property. This could be done only at the request of a majority of the property owners on the street. The plan called for the issuance of $200,000 in bonds for the city's share of the parking, paving, and sewering. A Street Commission, with five members from Council and taxpayers and one from each ward (with the mayor serving as *ex officio* member) was appointed to study the plan.[37] The Board of Trade voted its approval of the Patterson Plan. On September 21, 1889, the State Legislature passed the Patterson Bill, and it was signed a few days later by the Governor. On November 13th a city election resulted in 672 votes for the bill and 414 against. This was short of the required two-thirds majority, and another election for the issuance of the bonds was held January 5, 1890. This vote was 561 for the paving bonds and forty against.

Obstacles soon appeared when such wise men as Messrs. Hardeman, Huff, and Davis maintained that the election was illegal because two-thirds of the registered voters did not vote. Legal action was taken March 29th, and the city was enjoined against issuing the bonds. The city government resolved to fight the two[38] injunctions, which had stopped all work on draining the swamps and installing sewers. Leading counsel for the city were City Attorney Bartlett, Mr. Clifford Anderson, and Mr. R. W. Patterson. On May 15, 1880, Judge Miller ruled against the city in the bond injunction and the project was temporarily abandoned.

37. The Patterson Plan also included a registration bill.
38. One by opponents of the bonds: Huff, Rogers et al; the other by H. V. Napier.

Mr. John T. Boifeuillet introduced another Sewerage Bill in the State Legislature November 25, 1890. This bill provided for the appointment of a commission of four business men and the issuing of $200,000 worth of bonds, whose proceeds would be used for sewerage. This bill was passed, but through an oversight of Council was nullified when not acted upon in the required sixty days.

Agitation for paving and sewers was renewed in 1893 under the leadership of Mr. Henry Horne. In June Council passed resolutions concerning sewers. The Board of Trade appointed a committee of seven citizens to advise and confer with Council and the Board of Health if the bonds should be voted. The advisory committee included: Messrs. William H. Ross, C. W. Willingham, Morris Happ, J. G. McGoldrick, W. M. Gordan, S. R. Jaques, and J. F. Hanson. A citizens' meeting, "the largest Macon gathering ever assembled to discuss a public question,"[39] was held at the Academy of Music to discuss the important matter. Two days later the election was held, and the bond issue carried by a majority of 2,368. The Sewer Commission included: Mayor Price and Messrs. Carling, Pearson, Hall, Chestney, Jr., Samuel Altmayer, W. B. Sperry, R. S. Collins, and L. J. Dinkler. The city government, the Board of Health, the advisory committee, and the Bond Commission all worked harmoniously on the project.

In March, 1894, the sewer contract was awarded to Gaboury and Noble, of Anniston, for $100,000. Work was begun at Poplar and Fifth on April 3rd and was completed in something over a year. Chief credit for instigating the movement was given to Mayor Price and Mr. Henry Horne.

For several years civic leaders had been working for the paving of the streets and the beautifying of Tatnall Square Park. Both improvements merged in 1895 with a general improvement plan. Council passed an ordinance for a bond election for these and other improvements. The bond election, held on April 11th, failed. In October Mayor Horne proposed another paving plan, the Twenty-year Installment Plan. This plan was heartily endorsed by most property owners, and agitation for its passage continued into 1896. Alderman Willingham introduced the ordinance for another bond election. A paving committee with members from Council, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Young Men's Business League campaigned to get people registered for the election. The election, held April 15th, was an overwhelming victory for bonds: $130,000 to be used for paving and $50,000 for the municipal deficit. Legal difficulties were again encountered when Mr. W. A. Huff and Mr. T. C. Hendrix petitioned to enjoin the city from issuing paving bonds. Mayor Price changed the

39. The Macon Telegraph, June 19, 1893.

paving ordinance to conform with Judge Felton's ruling, and hope for paved streets returned.

Still the work moved slowly, for there was much disagreement concerning which streets should be paved first. Finally, March 23, 1897, an ordinance was passed providing for paving as follows: First, Second, and Third (from Poplar to Mulberry); Fourth and Fifth (from Pine to Ocmulgee); Ocmulgee (from Fourth to Fifth); Mulberry (from First to Fifth); Cherry (from First to Fifth); Pine (from Fourth to Fifth); Cotton (from First to Second); and Poplar (from First to Fifth). A survey was ordered and the Board of Public Works began pro-rating the cost. Larger mains were ordered installed.

Long wrangling ensued from a consideration of materials. Alderman Proudfit led the faction favoring the use of Macon brick. Some citizens preferred Belgian block, while others wanted asphalt or cement rock. Ceremonies were held June 21, 1897, when experimental paving with brick was begun in front of the City Hall. Another test was later made with cement rock on Poplar Street in front of the First Baptist Church. Property owners on Fourth Street secured an injunction against the city because they were not allowed to decide what material should be used in paving their street.

At length bidding for the Fourth Street paving was opened, and the contract was given to the Georgia Quincy Granite Company, of Macon, for $2.53 per square yard. The work was to be completed within four months. In 1898 contracts were signed for the paving of Cherry (vitrified brick on concrete foundation), Third (brick), and Fifth (granite cubes). After the first street was paved, talk of injunctions ceased and by April 24, 1899, Macon had spent $330,000 on its paving program. This was one of the most valuable improvements ever made in the city.

Because of the great amount of litigation involved in the paving bond issue, Mr. Washington Dessau saw the need of new legislation. He wrote the Reid Bill to validate and confirm municipal bonds. This bill, carried through the State Legislature in 1897 by Mr. Reid, of Bibb, controlled all municipal bond issues in Georgia.

F—*Eleemosynary Institutions*

Charitable institutions kept pace during this period with improvements in other fields. No organization was more influential in securing these improvements than The King's Daughters, a national woman's welfare organization. Working closely with them were other civic organizations, chief of which was the Macon Organized Charity Association. Annual Thanksgiving feasts, Christmas celebrations for the poor, and relief in seasons of flood, freezes, or epidemics were regular features of their work. We shall deal here with special projects undertaken during the last two decades of the century.

The Roff Home property, forty-two acres between Vineville and the Napier property, had been given jointly to the city and county, and was in 1886 quit claimed by the city to the county. The fifteen buildings comprising this home for dependents were completed May 17, 1887, and turned over to the county commissioners for operation. The cost of construction was $15,470. Chief newspaper notices concerning this institution centered around claims of negligence and mismanagement.

Mrs. Julia Parkman Jones, who died March 18, 1886, willed her home on Walnut Street to be maintained as a home for aged women. The building was improved at a cost of $10,000 and dedication services were held at Christ Church May 2, 1891. The Julia Jones Benevolent Home was managed by a board of directors made up of ladies.

An industrial home for girls was organized in 1896 by The King's Daughters. It was in the Hawthorne Mission at Bibb Mill Number Two.

Another orphanage, the Industrial Home, was founded in 1898 by Rev. W. E. Mumford. This home was maintained for children (ages 6 - 15) of indigent parents. The funds for the Home were raised by its founder. It was formally opened February 22, 1899.

Most important of all charitable institutions founded during these years was the Macon Hospital. Great need for a hospital had been felt for many years, and late in 1888 the Hopeful Ten Benevolent Society started raising funds for this purpose. The leader of this early movement was Mr. T. Skelton Jones; one of the largest subscribers was Mr. Joe Dannenberg, who donated $500 and a $100 annuity toward its support. In 1889 the Union Society of Organized Charities petitioned Council for the Rose Park property, on which they proposed to build a $10,000 charity hospital. The site was refused.

Work for a hospital continued, and on September 15, 1890, at the call of Mr. Price, a citizens' mass meeting was held. This meeting resulted in the appointment of Mayor Price, Dr. Warren, Rev. W. B. Jennings, Rev. F. F. Reese, Col. Isaac Hardeman, Mr. Joe Dannenberg, and Dr. McHatton to serve on a hospital committee. A week later another citizens' meeting voted to help The King's Daughters incorporate the hospital and raise $50,000. Work on building the hospital was to begin when the first $10,000 had been secured. Applying for the hospital's charter were: Messrs. Claude Estes, W. G. Solomon, Sol Waxelbaum, W. B. Hill, J. W. Cabaniss, Ben C. Smith, T. Skelton Jones, T. C. Troy, M. Nussbaum, E. D. Huguenin, R. E. Park, T. O. Chestney, Dr. C. H. Hall, Thomas Dempsey, C. B. Willingham, William Wolff, Clifford Anderson, T. C. Burke, R. H. Plant, J. F. Hanson, J. H. Hertz, T. D. Tinsley, Joseph Dannenberg, Harry C. Tindall, Isaac Hardeman, S. B. Price, and J. S. Baxter. The charter

was granted by Judge Adams October 4th, to be valid for twenty years with the right of renewal.

In 1891 organization of the hospital corporation was completed and Mr. George B. Wells offered a site for the building. For some reason the project at this time failed; but it was revived late in 1893. Another charter was granted. A citizens' meeting chose a hospital committee made up of Mrs. J. A. Thomas, Mrs. D. D. Woodruff, Mrs. W. F. Payne, Mrs. G. R. McCall, Mrs. Kushman, Mrs. T. Skelton Jones, and Messrs. Isaac Hardeman, C. B. Willingham, F. F. Reese, W. A. Doody, H. Horne, and R. E. Park. Early in 1894 the Hospital Association was formed with the following officers: Mr. R. E. Park, president; Rev. F. R. Reese, secretary; Mr. A. R. Tinsley, secretary.

Opposition to the location of the hospital on the property next to Whittle School delayed the movement once more. In July, 1894, the Hospital Association bought an option on the Calloway residence on Pine Street. They were enjoined from using this property, but the obstacle was later removed and work on the hospital proceeded. The Macon Hospital was opened March 27, 1895. In addition to the officers already named were Mr. C. B. Willingham, chairman of finance, Mr. W. M. Johnston, chairman of the building committee, and Dr. W. F. Holt, chairman of the medical board. The Hospital's first report (February 21, 1896) showed receipts and expenditures of $12,401.47.

The first major addition to the hospital came in 1898, when Mr. Thomas B. Gresham and Mrs. Machem, his sister, donated to the Macon Hospital Association $6,000 to erect a memorial hospital building in honor of their father, Judge John J. Gresham, who had been one of Macon's most valued and beloved citizens. Although the gift was made without reservations, leaders felt that before accepting it they should relieve the hospital of its $3,000 mortgage. Subscriptions for this purpose were taken.[40] The money was raised and the Gresham gift accepted at memorial services held January 21, 1899. The presentation address on behalf of the donors was made by Mr. Leroy Gresham and the addresses of acceptance by Hon. Walter B. Hill and Mayor S. B. Price.

Council voted May 22, 1900, to purchase an ambulance.

G—*The Ocmulgee River*

1—Navigation

The two decades of this era were marked by recurring efforts to utilize the Ocmulgee both for transportation and for water power. The efforts for revived navigation of the river were stimulated by a desire to force the railroads to reduce freight rates, and the movements for developing a canal by the desire for more industries.

40. A most unusual gift was that made by Mrs. Valeria Lamar McLoven—200 copies of her book, "Scenes and Dreams in Other Lands".

In 1889 the Board of Trade appointed a committee to investigate the possibilities of river navigation. As a result of their work Hon. C. C. McKibbee printed and distributed a long report on the Ocmulgee. The Board of Trade authorized a survey of the river, preparatory to asking Congress to clear it of obstructions. In August the State Senate passed the Bartlett Bill, which made Macon head of the Ocmulgee's navigation. The following month the surveying party reported that a six-foot channel in the river had been found and that the Ocmulgee could be made navigable for $15,000. Mr. R. M. Rogers and Mr. George T. Harris reported to the Board of Trade on opening the river between Macon and Hawkinsville. The Board endorsed their report and enlisted the aid of Congressman Blount. Early in 1890 the Secretary of War[41] ordered draws to be placed in all bridges between Macon and Hawkinsville and obstructions over the river to be removed. In April Congress appropriated $15,000 for improving the river between Macon and Hawkinsville.

The railroads were not co-operative, and in July, 1891, the government snag boat clearing the river was blocked at Bullard Station awaiting completion of the draw in the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad bridge. The Covington and Macon bridge also remained an obstacle. The arrival at the Macon wharf of *The John C. Stuart* November 7, 1891, marked the reopening of the Ocmulgee for navigation. Thousands of Macon people gathered to welcome the boat and celebrate the event.

On March 30, 1892, an additional $25,000 was appropriated by Congress for work on the Ocmulgee. By January 22, 1893 work on the river was almost complete. On that date *The Satilla,* a passenger and freight steamer, tied up at the foot of Sixth Street. In April the newspaper announced that steamboats would ply the Ocmulgee within fifteen days. An excursion boat, *The Mascot,* was on the river at Macon in May and freight boats were expected by fall. On May 15th the Board of Trade met aboard *The Mascot,* and with gala festivities formally reopened the river for navigation. President Park was in charge of the occasion, and chief credit for the accomplishment was given Mr. Harris and Mr. Rogers. Throughout that summer excursions on *The Mascot* were popular and dancing on its lower deck was enjoyed by Macon's young people.

The Board of Trade had worked for over three years to reopen the Ocmulgee. Over $200,000 had been spent in removing the rock shoals and sandbars, in closing incipient cut-offs, in rejetting caving banks, and in removing snags and logs. The snag boat had worked from October 24, 1892, until July, 1893. In 1893 the chief steamboats plying the river were: *Harry G. Day, The Lumber City, The Swan, The*

41. Redfield Proctor.

Mascot, and *The J. C. Stuart* (also spelled "Stewart" in the press). They carried annually about 2,500 tons of freight valued at $935,250. The total annual commerce of the river was 110,293 tons valued at $1,356,915. Most common freight was resin, spirits of turpentine, guano, and general merchandise.

On August 23, 1894, *The Gypsy* docked at Macon, bringing from Hawkinsville 600 cases of tomatoes. That year the Ocmulgee was again included in the federal appropriations for Georgia rivers and harbors. Announcement was made early in 1896 that three Macon companies were using steamboats to transport hardwoods.

Enthusiasm for river transportation soon began to abate, and in 1897 the Chamber of Commerce took steps to revive interest. Mr. George A. Smith was appointed head of a committee to organize the Macon Navigation Company. This organization worked to keep the river clear of obstacles and to encourage river navigation. *The City of Macon,* a boat built by the Navigation Company, docked here February 14, 1898. This boat, carrying a cargo of twenty-five tons, was the first freight boat to make a successful trip to Brunswick and back since the war.[42] The Macon Navigation Company planned to build three steamers to work out of Macon. Before they had started work on their second one, *The Bohemian,* the sheriff of Glynn County sold *The City of Macon* for laborers' liens. Although the sale was later set aside by a Brunswick court, the boat was finally (September 23, 1900) ordered sold for debts. Some enthusiasm for river transportation was seen in the contract for *The Ida* to run from Macon; but the century closed without the great revival of river navigation that had been expected.

2—Canal

A complete section could be written on Macon's unrealized dreams. Great energy and some money were spent during these years on development of a tourist hotel, an experiment station, and for a canal and power system on the Ocmulgee. Although these movements were of vital concern to the people of Macon at that time, we shall not trace them here, since none of them was achieved.

3—Bridges

One improvement that was achieved with very little difficulty was the construction of new bridges across the Ocmulgee.

As early as 1881 the need of a new bridge had been felt. Serious agitation for one was not begun until 1893. Leading the movement for new bridges was Mr. Gilbert Davis, county commissioner. City and county officials, Jones and Houston counties, and Macon citizens were all ready to support the project. The estimated cost of a new bridge

42. The Gypsy had made the trip to Brunswick but had failed to get back.

was $30,000. Greater interest was stimulated by the giving way of the floor of the old bridge in 1896. Included in the bond issue of 1896 was provision for the construction of two iron bridges, one on Spring Street and one at the location of the old bridge at Fifth. On May 29th the contract for the Spring Street bridge was given to the Ohio Bridge Company, of Toledo; but the contract was cancelled in July and work on the bridge was delayed.

The county commissioners finally undertook to build the bridge provided it should not cost the county over $9,000. Mr. Bacon and Mr. Sparks, whose property would be greatly enhanced by the bridge, undertook to secure subscriptions for additional funds, heading the list by a $5,000 pledge. Mr. Sam Weichselbaum pledged $1,000, Mr. W. S. Lowe $500, and Mr. C. B. Willingham $500 (to be paid upon completion of the bridge). The bridge was constructed by the Brackett Bridge Company at a total cost of $22,000. In addition to the above-named contributions, the Southern Railroad paid $3,000 and the city $3,000. The bridge was 740 feet long, had a thirty-foot roadway, and two five-foot sidewalks. It was turned over to the county September 22, 1897. Speakers at the ceremonies were Mr. Roland Ellis, Mr. Robert Hodges, and Mr. John T. Boiffeuillet.

Not until 1899 was the contract let for the Fifth Street bridge. The Brackett Bridge Company also got the contract for this structure. A temporary bridge across the river at Fifth Street was opened June 10, 1900 and was used until completion of the new structure.

SECTION IV

ASPECTS OF LIFE IN MACON

A—*Weather*

Macon's pride in its favorable climate was reflected in frequent movements to establish a tourist hotel here. The elements-on-rampage, in contrast with the normal beneficence of the seasons, was the subject of sensational news stories. Such events we list briefly in chronological order:

1880—Extreme cold. Four degree temperature claimed.

1882—January—"The Hancock Freshet". Heavy rains sent the Ocmulgee within one and one-half inches of its highest mark, damaging railroad bridges and covering graves in the cemetery.

1885—(Fall)—"The Reform Freshet."

1886—January 11—"The coldest day in Macon in fifty years." Three degrees above zero reported. All day ice floated down the river. Fowls froze to death. Ice skating was enjoyed on the pond near the river. The Ocmulgee was frozen from bank to bank.

1886—April 1—Flood of river almost equalled "The Harrison

Freshet". Flats in East Macon as far as Bibb Mill Number One were covered. The waters broke over the levee and filled Central City Park, submerging the famous mile track. Railroad tracks were submerged. Two men were drowned in their homes.

1886—August 31—Slight earthquake. Clock at Union Depot stopped. City Council was in session at the time. Buildings shook and cracked. The shock lasted three minutes (7:52 to 7:55 P.M.). Chimneys damaged. Bottles in drug stores were shaken off the shelves.

1887—January 5—Five inches of snow.

1887—July 30—Great floods. Water higher than the 1886 mark. Flooded all houses in the bottom on the east side of the river. Broke levee in Central City Park in three places. Covered the race track. Damaged brick yards. Ten thousand people visited the bridge during the day.

1888—March 21—"Cyclone". Little damage.

1891—March 10—Highest water mark since 1887.

1893—January 19—Heavy snow. Four to five inches. Lines down. Roads blocked.

B—*Health*

Macon was inordinately proud of its health record. The death rate in 1886 was: white—eleven to the thousand (the lowest of any city in the United States); blacks—eighteen to the thousand.

Zealous of maintaining this record, the city took precautions in guarding its citizens against the recurring epidemics of yellow fever, which ravaged Southern cities during these years. In 1888 Jacksonville, Florida suffered one of the most violent of these sieges. At first Mayor Price opened the doors of Macon to refugees, and on August 11th, eighty people fleeing the infested city came here. Later city officials and the Board of Health enforced rigid quarantine. Even relatives of Macon citizens were not allowed to stop here if they had come from Jacksonville. Inspectors were put on all trains to prevent drummers' slipping into the city. Macon organizations gave liberally to relieve the distressed city, but the officials were adamant in protecting Macon from infection.

Similar precautions were taken again in August, 1893, when Brunswick was threatened with yellow fever. In 1898 yellow fever raged in New Orleans, spread to Montgomery and Mobile, and one case was reported in Atlanta. So many groundless rumors of cases were circulated in Macon that Council passed an ordinance to prosecute any person guilty of spreading false or idle rumors about yellow fever.

C—*Gala*

One of the most delightful features of life in Macon during the gay eighties and gayer nineties was the numerous public celebrations.

1—State Fairs

The first Georgia State Fair held at Macon (1873) had brought thousands of visitors and an income of $100,000 to the city. Remembering the stimulus to trade and the favorable advertising the city derived from this fair, citizens worked in 1883 to secure it again for Macon. Business men subscribed $3,000, and the Georgia Agricultural Society agreed to hold the 1883 fair at Central City Park. The fair lasted a week and, in addition to industrial, agricultural, and homemaking exhibits, included such amusements as walking matches, clay-pigeon shooting matches, fire works, sideshows, and horse races. Again in 1885 a successful fair was held here. In 1886 Macon was working to make this the permanent home of the fairs.

The State Fair held October 24-29, 1887, eclipsed all previous ones. The outstanding feature of the week was the reunion of Confederate veterans and Jefferson Davis' farewell to his soldiers. Elaborate preparations were made, and not only the Georgia, but also the national press gave much publicity to the event. In addition to Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson and their daughter, Winnie, other celebrities here for the fair were Governor Gordon, General Joe Wheeler, General Henry R. Jackson, Governor Lowry of Mississippi and Governor Perry of Florida. Mr. Davis and his family were the guests of the Marsh Johnston family. On the fair grounds at the park a little cottage was furnished for Mr. Davis' use by Payne and Willingham. Here he rested during the day. A citizens' committee[43] traveled to Beauvoir to escort the honored party to Macon. Governor Gordon was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Coleman on Cowles Hill.

For this fair sixteen carloads of exhibits were brought to Macon. The crowded program included parades, races, dances,[44] speeches, receptions, magnificent fireworks, and innumerable parties. Never in the South had such an ovation been given as Macon and its 50,000 visitors accorded Jefferson Davis on this occasion of his farewell to Confederate soldiers. So deeply touched were Macon people that immediately after the departure of the Davis family, they started a drive for a Davis memorial fund. Mrs. Davis graciously but firmly deprecated the movement. Years later, remembering Macon's hospitality, she sent to the Macon Library and Historical Society many personal mementoes of her husband.

Never again was such a spectacular State Fair held here. In 1888 Augusta asked Macon to release the Agricultural Society from its contract for the fair, but Council refused the request. Because of the yellow fever epidemic and the attendant quarantine, the '88 fair was postponed until November.

43. Mayor S. B. Price, Capt. W. W. Carnes, Capt. R. E. Park, Messrs. W. R. Rogers, A. R. Tinsley, H. S. Edwards.
44. The most elaborate was the one given by The Thalians for "Miss Winnie" at the Coleman home.

In 1891 the Macon Georgia Fair and Exposition Company was organized with Mr. Dan G. Hughes as president. Citizens were asked to buy 2,000 shares of stock at $5.00. This fair was sponsored by the Macon organization co-operating with the Georgia State Agricultural Society and was in the nature of a Trades Display. One of the chief features of the exposition was the picturesque Trades Display parade. The procession, one and one-half miles long, included fifty-five floats. In addition to the trades floats and a replica of Fort Hawkins, there were floats depicting "Our Great State" (the state coat of arms, an arch under which stood the Goddess of Wisdom, General Oglethorpe and his staff); "Macon, the Hub" (representing Macon's twelve railroads); and "The Bee Hive" (representing blacksmiths, carpenters, and machinists). The events lasted a week, and it was "a trade carnival never excelled by any city in the South and never attempted by any other city in Georgia."

There was again talk in 1893 of the Georgia Agricultural Society's taking the fair away from Macon. In March the City Council voted its approval of a plan for rotating the State Fair. In 1893 it was held in Augusta. In 1894 the Macon Exposition Company and the Georgia State Agricultural Society held the fair jointly at Macon, the Macon company managing all details except the agricultural features. This fair, known as "The Dixie Interstate Fair", lasted from October 23rd through November 8th. Planned by Mr. Azel Freeman and Mr. Clem Phillips, it was one of the largest Macon has ever held. Maior E. E. Winters, director of amusements, secured a new attraction, "The Midway Plaisance".

2—Older Celebrations

Many traditional celebrations continued to be held during the early years of this period. The annual Sunday School picnics at Central City Park were eagerly anticipated by children. The Fourth of July celebrations had not been observed in Macon with as much *eclat* as before the Civil War. The Fourth of July festivals were sponsored at this time by the Macon Library and Historical Society and were barbecues or all-day picnics held at Central City Park.[45] Tournaments, military drills and contests, shooting matches ,chicken-picking contests, tub races, bicycle races, steer races, hurdle races, velocipede races, climbing the greased pole, walking matches, and boat races were characteristic amusements of the day.

In 1888 a particularly elaborate program was planned and the traditional patriotic oration was revived. In addition to the competitive oration, a walkathon, a man versus horse race, slow mule races,

45. It will be observed that most of Macon's gala were held at this park. The park, which had been built in the years before this period opened, was considered one of the handsomest in the South. Chief credit for this splendid addition to Macon belongs to Mr. W. A. Huff.

day fireworks, parade fantasies, a baby show, a kite-flying contest, a wrestling match between a negro and a bear, a three-legged race, and bands were featured. After the Spanish-American War Macon was imbued with an unusual spirit of national pride, and the Fourth of July celebrations again took on the old festive air.

Mention has been made of the annual celebration of the Macon Volunteer Fire Department. Each spring, usually April 15th, the Macon companies issued invitations to other Georgia companies. The parade grounds were on Mulberry between Second and Third. Macon ladies wore the colors of their favorite company. The reels and engines were bedecked with flowers. While the band played "Dixie", the volunteers, picturesque in their red jackets, black trousers, and helmets, ran to their engines, laid the hose, and made the coupling. The drills and races were enlivened by a keen spirit of competition. The festive day ended with a banquet and ball.

One of the biggest fire-fighting contests ever held in Georgia and the last one held in Macon occurred April 15, 1884, when the Grand State Firemanic Tournament met here. This marked the thirtieth anniversary of the Volunteer Fire Department. Thirty-two companies —one of them from New Jersey—participated in the two-day contests. Thousands of visitors gathered to cheer the competing companies.

Another organization that added zest to Macon life was the military. In addition to frequent dances, fairs, rafflings, and summer picnics, the companies held competitive drills. One of the most brilliant of these was the two-day competitive drill held May 11 and 12, 1887. Governor Gordon was an honored guest, and companies from Atlanta, Dahlonega, Milledgeville, Augusta, and other towns participated. Receptions for the Governor were held at the homes of Colonel W. H. Ross on Orange Street and of Mr. M. Nussbaum on College Street. Governor Gordon gave a reception for the citizens at the Lanier Hotel. Six hundred people attended a banquet that was held at the Volunteers Armory. A grandstand was erected at Central City Park from which the drills were judged. Among the sponsors were: Miss Mary Lou Bacon and Miss Nannie Holt; and among the maids-of-honor were: Misses Dollie Blount, Ida Burden, Fitzellen Wright, Annie Clark, and Annie Valentino. The program was planned by Colonel C. M. Wiley.

The Macon companies often went to other cities to enter competitive drills and brought great glory to the city by their success in these matches. The Macon Cadets distinguished themselves by winning the thousand dollar prize against Columbus in what was described as "the grandest drill ever witnessed in the South."[46] The Macon Cadets were five times winner in the state contest against the Atlanta Rifles and the Gate City Guards.

46. The Macon Telegraph, May 20, 1889.

The lavishness with which Macon entertained visitors is well illustrated by the honors tendered the Rockford (Illinois) Rifles and the Janesville (Wisconsin) Guards, military companies attending a military convention in Atlanta in 1880 and invited to be guests of the Floyd Rifles (John L. Hardeman, Captain) and of the Macon Volunteers (W. W. Carnes, Captain). The day's festivities ended with an elaborate banquet. The menu was printed on white silk and included: soup, fish, twenty-two meats, thirteen vegetables, fifteen pastries, seven desserts, and wines of superb bouquet and flavor with each course. Places were set for 200.

3—Later Celebrations

Macon's penchant for grand-scale festivals reached a peak in the late nineties. Encouraged by the success of the Dixie Interstate Fair, business men began early in 1895 planning a Peach Carnival. The program for this festival was:

July 1—Opening speeches. Grand parade of fruits and flowers.
July 2—Balloon ascension and races.
July 3—Balloon ascension and bicycle races.
July 4—Military Day. Cannon firing, fireworks, reading of The Declaration of Independence, State Gun Club shoot.
July 5—Watermelon Day.
July 6—Interstate boat races.
July 7—Open air Fruit of Harvest sermon at the park.
Second week—Baseball week, with daily games.
July 15—Boat races, regatta, and balloon ascension.
July 16-17—Interstate gun shoot.
July 18—Gun shoot with $1500 in prizes.
July 19—Races and balloon ascension.
July 20—Races for sweepstakes. Boat races.

In addition to these features, was the crowning of the Queen of the Carnival. Mr. Richard Jordan, who won the tournament, chose Miss Florence Wadley Queen of Love and Beauty. She was attended by Miss Fanny Lou Guttenberger. A german at Ocmulgee Park, led by Mr. Prentice Huff with Miss Carrie May Lane, followed the coronation.

Observation of Macon's seventy-fifth birthday gave occasion in 1898 for another gala, the Diamond Jubilee. Planning this mammoth celebration was a committee of seventy men and women. Officers of the Carnival Association were: president, Mr. E. A. Waxelbaum; first vice-president, Mr. F. C. Benson; second vice-president, Mr. W. E. McCaw; secretary, Mr. M. P. Calloway; treasurer, Mr. M. F. Taylor; publicity and promotion, Mr. G. C. Matthews; and assistant secretary, Mr. George Ketchum. Miss Martha Johnston was chosen Queen of the

Carnival and Miss Alberta Coleman, Floral Queen. After many exciting days of balloting, Mr. Prentice Huff was elected King of the Carnival.

Main features of the program were:

October 11—Patriotic Day. Grand patriotic parade. Opening pageant. Reception of the King. The War and Peace night pageant, one of the most brilliant ever seen here, featured fireworks and floats representing the Spanish-American War and the Annexation of Hawaii. A canopied dais was erected on Mulberry Street at the foot of Coleman's Hill. Here the king was crowned.

October 12—Floral Day. Floral parade and the Battle of Roses. In this parade, Macon's most beautiful ladies decorated their carriages and dressed themselves in elaborate gowns designed to depict different flowers. Miss Coleman was crowned at a ball held that night.

October 13—Trades Parade Day. The city departments, athletic organizations, and business firms participated.

October 14—Macon Day. Parade of the Drummers. One thousand children formed a living American flag. At night the Mystic Float Procession, with the King making a spectacular entry from the river boat. Queen Martha was crowned at elaborate night ceremonies. The Carnival Ball was the last and one of the most elaborate events of the full program.

A similar festival, Macon's third annual carnival, was held the following year. Officers of this year's Carnival Association were: president, Mr. W. T. Loyless; first vice-president, Mr. Joseph N. Neel; and second vice-president, Mr. Clem Phillips. Miss Bertha Willingham was chosen Carnival Queen. An added feature was the election by sale of votes of a King and Queen of the Lilliputians. Marian Noone was elected Queen and Harry Kendall, King. Miss Cleveland Smith was chosen Queen of Flowers and Mr. Monroe Ogden King of Carnival. A river and night pageant, "Triumph of America", a Farmers' Parade, a fox chase through the streets of the city, nightly vaudeville acts at the Plaza (a large stage, erected on Third Street, between Poplar and Pine, on which over 200 vaudeville and acrobatic stars performed), a colored fire-fighting contest, and a Governor's reception were the outstanding events on the program.

The last of these great fiestas was a Street Fair, held in September, 1900. This event, planned and executed on as elegant a scale as previous celebrations, had more of the true carnival spirit and less of beautiful pageantry. Third, Poplar, and Mulberry streets were marked off into eighteen parks, and each park had daily performances from 3 to 7 p.m.

In this way, all citizens could be entertained without the congestion usually attendant on such occasions. There was a Grand Masquerade Ball—"exclusively for the best people". Some of the daily attractions were: acrobatics, equilibrists, contortionists, balloon ascensions, electric fountains, ferris wheels, Hindoo swings, Palace of Mysteries, Congress of American Athletes, agricultural displays, Elks' Midway and Country Store, organizational displays, fire eaters, mummy shows, bands, an encampment of Confederate veterans — with Governor Candler sleeping in tents on the park grounds with the veterans— gypsy camps, fire drills, parades, horse shows, fiddling matches, a floral parade, mind-reading contests. Such a dazzling list of amusements had never before been seen in the city!

4—Entertainment of Celebrities

In addition to these seasonal and commercial celebrations was the round of festivities accorded famous visitors to Macon during this period. Such festivities followed a general pattern, which included: a procession of city officials, representatives of the Board of Trade, the military, and prominent citizens to the depot to greet the vistor; a tour of the city; as many balls, receptions, luncheons, banquets as the visitor's time or inclination would permit. With only brief comment, we list some of the celebrities who visited Macon during this period:

1—Alexander H. Stephens—September 8, 1882. See section on Government.

2—Jefferson Davis. October 24, 1881. Passed through Macon and stopped for twenty minutes. He was carried to the depot balcony, where he was tenderly greeted by Mrs. Howell Cobb, widow of his dead friend. He spoke briefly to Macon citizens, assembled here to pay him tribute.

October 24-31, 1887. Reunion and farewell to his soldiers. Discussed under topic on State Fairs.

3—General John B. Gordon—December 23, 1895. Guest for lunch of Mr. and Mrs. McEwen Johnston on Georgia Avenue; for dinner, guest of Major and Mrs. William Henry Ross on College Street. Lectured at Academy of Music on "The Last Days of the Confederacy". Reception at the Volunteers Armory.

4—President McKinley—December 10, 1898. To review Federal troops stationed here. Discussed in section on Government—Spanish-American War.

5—Admiral and Mrs. Dewey—March 22 1899. Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Plant on College Street. Met by customary procession. Lunch at the Plant's home. Reception at the Volunteers Armory. The Admiral gave a public reception on Coleman's Hill for the children of the city. He was tendered a dinner by the Cherokee Club.

D—*Organizations*

Macon had always taken a lively interest in club work. Among the organizations established here during this period were:

1—Temperance Club—May 14, 1890. President, Mrs. Joseph S. Key. The Woman's Christian Temperance Union had been formed at an earlier date by Frances Willard.

2—King's Daughters—An inter-denominational charity organization. First president of Macon unit, Mrs. T. Skelton Jones. Largely responsible for establishing the Macon Hospital, the Home for the Friendless, and other institutions discussed in section on Improvements.

3—Women's Auxiliary of Y.M.C.A.—1890 ca.

4—The Mary Hammond Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution—1891. First chapter organized in Georgia. Mary Hammond Washington, first regent.

5—Elks—February 16, 1892. Mr. H. P. Moore, exalted ruler.

6—Georgia Lumbermen's Association—Macon headquarters. April, 1892.

7—Movement begun to establish a Woman's Exchange—April, 1892.

8—Lodge Number 59, Knights of Pythias—August 22, 1892. M. R. Rodgers.

9—Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division 1—E. D. Huthnance, president; P. T. Duffy, county delegate.

10—The Knights of Saint Joseph—Military company. Captain, Dr. N. G. Gewinner.

11—State Organization of King's Daughters at Macon. January, 1895.

12—Sidney Lanier Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy. January 8, 1896. Organized by Mrs. Robert Emory Park. First president, Mrs. Appleton Collins. This organization and the older one, The Ladies Memorial Association consolidated.

13—The History Club—1890. First president, Mrs. John B. Cobb.

14—Current Topics Club—Mrs. Mallory Taylor, president.

15—Free Kindergarten Association—1892. Mrs. R. E. Park president.

16—The Rebekah Lodge, Odd Fellows — August 25, 1897. Yomah Number 23. L. S. Hill, Noble Grand; Mrs. A. W. Burkett, warden.

17—The Macon Press Club—August, 1899. Organized by Mr. C. R. Pendleton.

Not only because of its central location but also because of its traditional hospitality, Macon had for many years been a favorite convention city. Among the conventions held here in this period were: the Georgia Teachers' Association (May, 1880), the Georgia State Horticultural Society (July, 1884), Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars (July, 1885), Georgia Press Association (April, 1886 and March, 1897), Travelers Protective Association

(May, 1887), Masons (almost annually), World's Fair Convention of Editors (December, 1891), W.C.T.U. (1893), Knights of Pythias (May, 1893), Georgia State Baptist Convention (March, 1894), Representatives from fifteen Railway Organizations (May, 1894), King's Daughters (January, 1895. Organization meeting. First state meet in the South. Mrs. J. A. Thomas, of Macon, was elected president), State Sunday School Convention (1896), State Medical Association (1896 and 1897), State Hibernians, Georgia Dairymen's Association (1896), Shriners (October, 1896), Grand Lodge of Ancient Order of United Workmen (October, 1896), First Convention of Woodmen of the World for jurisdiction of Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, and Florida (February, 1897. At Teutonia Hall), Y.M.C.A. (March, 1897), Georgia Library Association (October, 1897), Elks (March, 1898), Epworth League (several years in the late nineties).

E—*Society*

No city in Georgia enjoyed more brilliant social seasons during the last two decades of the century than did Macon. Its hospitality was widely known, and its lavish entertainments were enjoyed by visitors from all sections of the country. From late September until Lent, Macon elite crowded into their lives such a round of germans, receptions, masquerades, club meetings, card parties, riding parties, lawn parties, theatricals, dinners, luncheons, debuts, festivals, and fairs as would fatigue contemporary cafe society.

As the period opened, one of the older social customs—New Year's calling—was beginning to wane. For several years in the early eighties, however, the young society men in full dress suits, armed with elaborate calling cards and wheeled around in the most stylish equipages the livery stables could afford, called from six to twelve o'clock on the ladies of their acquaintance. The young men who intended calling and the ladies who planned to receive were listed in the newspapers for several days before New Year's Day. By 1890 the young men had decided that they enjoyed sherry more than the coffee and tea that were customarily offered on these occasions, and the traditional custom had about disappeared.

One of the favorite entertainments of the eighties was the german. The larger germans were held at Masonic Hall, Harmonic Hall, or at the Volunteers Armory. Many smaller and more exclusive germans were danced in the ballrooms of the Marsh Johnston home and the S. T. Coleman home. Most often named as leaders of the germans were Mr. Prentice Huff, Mr. Roff Sims, Mr. Willis Sparks, Mr. Travis Huff, and Mr. Sam Dunlap.

Macon was a town of mushroom social clubs. One of the longest lived and most active of the social clubs was the Thalians, a club of young men organized particularly for the entertainment of visiting

belles, although their parties were by no means restricted to these. Several times during these years its activities waned, but it was reorganized. One of its most brilliant entertainments was the german tendered Miss Winnie Davis when she spent some ten days here with her parents. In 1892 the Tuesday Evening German Club replaced the Thalian Club. Mr. Prentice Huff and Mr. Ellis Talbott organized this club.

Another important social organization was the Commercial Club, organized in 1889 by prominent business men. It was said to have represented more wealth than any club in Georgia. Mr. S. R. Jaques was president. The governing board included: Messrs. W. H. Ross, J. F. Hanson, A. Proudfit, and W. A. Doody. Though primarily an exclusive business men's club, this association gave at their handsome rooms many elegant receptions and balls.

In 1896 a group of young men formed the Cherokee Club. They leased the Gresham mansion on College Street and converted it into a club house. They later bought a house on Mulberry for headquarters. Older society men were invited to hold honorary membership in this club. The Cutglass Eucre Club was an exclusive and important card club, made up of prominent men and women. Birds and champagne were served at every meeting of this club, to which most important society people belonged. The Progress Club, composed of wealthy and influential Hebrews, had elegant club quarters on Poplar Street and gave many lavish parties. The Teutonia was a club for the German element.

Among the other social clubs that helped keep Macon society gay were: the Social Dancing Club, the Harmonic Society, the Bohemian Social Club, the Pierian Society, the Youths' Harmony Club, Frolicsome Fellows, Centenary Alliance, the Mikado Club, the Ladies German Club, the Vineville Social Club, Young Ladies Cotillion Club, the College Hill Club, the Nine O'Clock Cotillion Club, the St. Valentine's Club, the Whist Club, the Neighborhood Club, the Chafing Dish Club, Poche Club, and the J. G. E. Club. Although the Macon Volunteers was a military company, it entertained as much as any of the social clubs and had tremendous social influence. Some of the most brilliant balls enjoyed in Macon were given by this company at their armory.

The Log Cabin Club was the scene of many gay entertainments. The Country Club of the nineties, it had 300 members. In 1892 Mr. N. R. Winship was president. The Ocmulgee Park, which opened in 1894, was another popular place for parties and picnics.

An important phase of social life was theater attractions. Macon had always been an important billing town for drama, opera, and all forms of amusements. During the early years of this period, most of

these performances were given in Ralston Hall. After the Academy of Music was built it was the chief scene of both professional and amateur theatricals. The printed lists of amusements show that Macon enjoyed the gamut of amusements: Shakespeare, grand opera, light opera, tragedy, comedy, vaudeville, minstrels, ventriloquists, magicians, acrobats, jugglers, and freaks. In the 1890 - 1891 season, over 100 companies played here. The amateur performances included children's dance and music recitals, light opera, kirmeses, fantasies, tableaux, bands, orchestras, and all kinds of musical concerts.

One of the most interesting features of society is weddings. Newspaper accounts included, in addition to the details written in modern accounts, a list of wedding gifts, with the names of the donors and occasionally even the value of the gift, and a description of the more elegant trousseaux. Because weddings have a particular place in the history of a city and also reveal something of its personnel, we include in this topic a partial list of the marriages which received during this period most prominent press notice:[47]

1—Miss Bettie Johnson and Mr. Bright W. Lundy—1880.
2—Miss Fannie Gilmer and Mr. Washington Dessau—April 9, 1880.
3—Miss Roxie Lane and Mr. Harry S. Edwards—January 21, 1881.
4—Miss Tero Calloway and Mr. John T. Logan—January 10, 1882.
5—Miss Minnie Wood and Mr. George Plant—November 21, 1883.
6—Miss Georgia Tracy and Mr. George Wadley—June 28, 1883.
7—Miss Jimmie Snyder and Mr. Iverson L. Harris—1883.
8—Miss Wylena Lamar and Mr. Eli S. Shorter—December 7, 1883. Eight hundred invitations were issued to this wedding and a bridal dinner for 300 was given by the bride's parents. Quail were ordered from New York, oysters from Mobile. The bride wore "the costliest and handsomest dress ever worn in Georgia."[48]
9—Miss Carrie Tracy (Johnson) and Mr. George W. Duncan—1884.
10—Miss Annie Powers and Mr. Drury R. Malone—April 18, 1884.
11—Miss Stella Hunt and Mr. Campbell King—June 9, 1884.
12—Miss Alberta Lamar and Colonel W. H. Washington—1886. One of Macon's most brilliant weddings. She was the youngest daughter of Col. H. J. Lamar, of Vineville. He was the District Attorney of Nashville. Two special coaches from Atlanta brought distinguished guests from Nashville. The ceremony was performed at Mulberry Methodist Church before 400 guests. There were twelve bridesmaids and twelve groomsmen.
13—Mrs. Henrietta D. Holt and Hon. L. Q. C. Lamar—January 6, 1887. A quiet ceremony, but an important marriage because of the prominence of the contracting parties. She was the daughter of Col. James Dean and the widow of William S. Holt. He was at the

47. Any omissions are due either to gaps in newspaper files or to unintentional oversight.
48. The Macon Telegraph, December 8, 1883.

time of the marriage Secretary of the Interior and was later Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

14—Miss Jennie Lamar and Mr. W. H. Lamar—July 22, 1887.

15—Miss Lola Landsberg and Mr. Morris Harris—1888.

16—Miss Leila Rose Conner and Mr. Frank H. Richardson—April 24, 1889.

17—Miss Blanche Hall and Mr. Joseph N. Neel—January 9, 1890.

18—Miss Daisy Huff and Mr. Ovid Sparks—January 11, 1893. A brilliant wedding at the Mulberry Methodist Church. Admittance by card. Miss Huff was considered "one of the most beautiful women in the South."[49]

19—Miss Fannie Hanson and Mr. Ross White—March 21, 1893.

20—Miss Mary Ross Plant and Mr. Walter Eugene McCaw—April 19, 1893.

21—Miss Ann Middleton Speer and Mr. John Howard Burr—July 20, 1893.

22—Miss Lizzie Lawton and Mr. Call Johnson—September 27, 1893.

23—Miss Ruby Jones and Mr. Walter Grace—October 18, 1893.

24—Miss Irene Stevens and Dr. Maury M. Stapler—November 8, 1893.

25—Miss Minnie Merkel and Mr. Otto K. Erhart—November 8, 1893.

26—Miss Fannie Camilla Holt and Mr. James Adrian Thomas, Jr.—December 20, 1893.

27—Miss Ilah Dunlap and Mr. Lee A. Jordan—April 25, 1894.

28—Miss Charlie Goodwin Conner and Mr. Lewis A. Wood—June 21, 1894.

29—Miss Annie Hanson and Mr. R. Young Garrett—October 11, 1895.

30—Miss Clara Guerry and Mr. William O. Kinney—December 5, 1895.

31—Miss Dolly Blount and Mr. W. D. Lamar—December 16, 1896. Though the ceremony, performed at the Presbyterian Church, was private, this was considered one of the season's most important events, because it united two Macon families that had for more than three generations played a distinguished role in Southern history.

32—Miss Hazlehurst Plant and Mr. Wallace McCaw—April 28, 1897.

33—Miss Julia Mitchell Gambrell and Mr. Sidney Reid Wiley—April 28, 1897.

34—Miss Laura Boykin Anderson and Mr. Charles Buford Duke—1899.

35—Miss Irene Winship and Mr. Richard Cassius Lee Moncure—April 26, 1899.

36—Miss Nannette Carter and Mr. James Allen Smith—April 27, 1899.

49. The Macon Telegraph, January 12, 1891.

37—Miss Ethel Oliver Brown and Mr. William Jordan Massee—November 8, 1899.
38—Miss Bertha Willingham and Mr. John J. Seibels—April 25, 1899.
39—Miss Jonnie Holmes and Mr. Robert L. Sparks—June 27, 1899.
40—Miss Nettie Dunlap and Mr. Henry M. Wortham.
41—Miss Carrie Austin and Mr. Phillips Miller.

G—*Sports*

The earliest mention of sporting activities during this period was the reorganization April 18, 1880, of the Ocmulgee Boat Club and the Ocmulgee Shooting Club. In September of the same year the Jockey Club sponsored horse races at Central City Park. A velocipede tournament excited the interest of young boys, and fifty contestants in eleven classes entered this event.

In 1884 and for several years thereafter, walking matches were a fad in Macon. Most of these were organized by the Library Association and were held at Central City Park. Inter-city matches were popular, and rivalry between Macon and Atlanta was especially keen. The largest of these contests was held in June, 1884. The Macon team wore blue knee pants, pink stockings, and white shirts. Thirty carloads of people came from Atlanta to watch the six-hour match.

Although baseball had been introduced in Macon as early as 1860 by Commodore A. A. Roff, it was during this period still considered a new sport. Attempts in 1880 to organize a professional team failed. The military companies and many other organizations had teams, which played amateur baseball. By 1885 Macon had a professional team, which played such cities as Savannah, Memphis, Chattanooga, and other members of the Southern League. At this time Mr. Alexander Proudfit was president of the Southern League and Mr. Ed. L. Brown represented the Macon Baseball Association. The Association directors were often hard-pressed and would each year canvass the city for subscriptions for the baseball funds. A season baseball ticket in 1886 cost $12.50. Macon was considered the best baseball town in Georgia. Mr. C. D. Tinsley was in that year president of the Macon Baseball Association.

Another popular sport was bicycling. In 1886 a Macon bicyclist, J. H. Polhill, won the championship for all distances in the Southern matches. The only fifty-mile bicycle race ever held in Georgia was run November 26, 1886, in Macon.

Macon clubs active in promoting sports were: Arabesque Club (a hunting club); Kennel Club; Gun Club; the Jockey Club; the Macon Athletic Club (to encourage football, baseball, and lawn tennis. Luther Williams, president in 1892); Suwanee River Gun Club; Georgia Trotting Horse Association (organized in Macon. Mr. R. E. Park, president); Macon Wheelmen, and Central City Cycle Club

(consolidated in 1893 to form the Central City Cycle Club. Bridges Smith, president); the Chess Club; and the City Hall Fishing and Boating Club.

In 1893 Macon was dropped from the Southern Baseball League, but early in 1894 secured Augusta's franchise and was reinstated. In 1895 the Macon race track was licensed by the New York Jockey Club, and the Southern Racing Association held its races at the Central City Park. Sporting news of 1896 centered in the organization of the Southeastern Baseball League (Savannah, Charleston, Columbus, Macon, and Atlanta) and its subsequent quarrel with the Southern League. The Southern forced Atlanta to hold its contract and the new league died. During the last years of this era, the Ocmulgee Tennis Club and the Macon Golf Club were formed here.

H—*Cultural*

1—Educational Institutions

The report of Mr. B. M. Zettler, Superintendent of Public Schools, in 1880 showed an enrolment of 3,349 white pupils, 59 teachers, an expenditure of $20,036.60, and an average cost per pupil of 78 cents. The superintendent called attention to the county's need of three new grammar schools and one high school building. The 1883 report showed forty schools (city and county) and a teaching force of sixty-eight. The total expenditure for this year was $27,677.70.

"In the summer of 1880 the trustees of the Macon Free School purchased the Medical College building on Mulberry Street, remodeled it to adapt it to school purposes, and turned it over to the Board of Education to accommodate the public school occupying the small buildings on the old Academy Square. The school was named in honor of L. N. Whittle. In 1892 the Trustees of the Macon Free School erected a building on the lot at Mulberry and Spring Streets and moved the Whittle School to its present location.

"In 1882 the Trustees of the Macon Free School Board purchased the city's interest in the Polhill property on Orange Street and built a new school. This was known as the Nisbet School, after James T. Nisbet."[50]

Mr. Joseph Clisby, president of the Board of Education since June 9, 1874, resigned in 1883 because of poor health. "Col." L. N. Whittle was elected president, and Mr. Robert H. Plant was elected a member of the board to fill the vacancy.

"The people of Vineville in 1884 erected by voluntary contributions a school building, and in the same year the residents of East Macon by voluntary subscriptions built a school in that section."[51]

50. Macon News Supplement, 1929, p. 42.
51. Ibid.

The thirteenth annual report of the Board of Education (September 17, 1885) showed eighty teachers at a monthly salary ranging from $20 to $75. The enrolment showed an increase of ninety-four over the preceding year, or a total of 4,778. One hundred and twenty-five pupils attended the Alexander Free School and 250 attended private institutions and colleges here. In 1886 the enrolment dropped 347 and in 1887 increased 306.

"Again the High School had outgrown its quarters and in 1888 the trustees of the Macon Free School decided to erect a brick building for the use of the school to be named Gresham High School in honor of Judge John J. Gresham."



Macon Schools

"During 1892 the Winship School on Huguenin Heights was built and named in honor of Emory Winship . . ."[52] The Alexander Free School, which had operated as a separate school, was turned over to the Board of Education June 24, 1892.

Enrolment for 1893 was listed by schools:

Gresham High School	121	Green Street	28
Nisbet	384	Hazel Street	252
Second Street School	393	Pleasant Hill	253
Whittle	284	Turpin Street	84
Winship	144	East Macon	71
Alexander	118	Unionville	108
South Macon	287		
Fort Hawkins	271	Total Colored	796
Vineville	114		
Fourth Street	66		
Total White	2182		

In 1894 Professor Zettler, who had been superintendent for twenty-one years, resigned. Professor Don Q. Abbott was elected superintendent. Dr. W. F. Holt was elected in 1895 to succeed Judge Gustin on the Board of Education. General excitement was caused in this year by the Board's efforts to enforce compulsory vaccination.

Statistics continued to reveal during the last years of the century the steady growth of Macon's public schools: Enrolment for 1894—4,440; enrolment for 1895—4,810; enrolment for 1897—6,831 with an average daily attendance of 4,450, a total expenditure of $77,043.99, and a total real estate property of $145,700.

The King's Daughters organized the Free Kindergarten Association. Its officers were: president, Mrs. R. E. Park; first vice-president, Mrs. C. B. Willingham; second vice-president, Mrs. H. M. Wortham; secretary, Mrs. Minter Wimberly; treasurer, Mrs. A. L. Miller. On March 15th they opened a free kindergarten at their Hawthorne Street rooms.

Professor C. W. Kilpatrick, in charge of the country schools of the system, in 1898 put into operation here the first traveling library in Georgia. In July, 1899, Mr. T. D. Tinsley succeeded Mr. R. A. Nisbet as president of the Board of Education. Other officers at this time were: Mr. A. L. Miller, Mr. J. H. Hertz, and Mr. J. W. Cabaniss. In September Mr. Henry Horne and Mr. W. H. Smith were elected members of the Board of Education. By this time the enrolment had grown to 6,626, the average cost per pupil was $1.29, and the average daily attendance was 90 per cent of the enrolment.

Several interesting sidelights of public education were observed in the press. On December 17, 1884, a Macon teacher made an experi-

52. Ibid.

ment intended to prove the effects of chewing gum on study. She gave twelve of her students twenty-nine arithmetic problems to solve. She allowed six to chew gum while doing the assignment; six she did not allow to chew. The chewers solved correctly twenty-one of the problems; the non-chewers, eight. A lengthy editorial complained on June 10, 1884, of the heavy burden of home assignments. It was estimated that the average Macon school child worked nine hours a day—an amount that was considered excessive.

Changes occurred during these years also in Macon's private and church educational institutions.

Announcement was made in the spring of 1881 that Mr. George J. Seney, of Brooklyn, New York, had given Wesleyan College, $50,000. The college soon began an extensive building and remodeling program. Much unfavorable publicity resulted from the negligence of the Building Committee and the Executive Committee in this building program. The deplorable waste was exposed by Mr. J. F. Hanson, a member of the Building Committee. As a result of the situation, Mr. H. L. Jewett resigned from the Board of Trustees and was succeeded by Rev. J. W. Burke. In 1886 the college was honored by a visit of its benefactor. Stenography and typewriting were added to the curriculum in 1887, the year the Alumnae Association celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. In 1894 Dr. W. C. Bass, who had been associated for thirty years with the college and its president for the past twenty years, resigned. He was succeeded by Rev. Edgar H. Rowe, who served from 1894 to 1896. Dr. John D. Hammond followed Rev. Rowe as president, and did much to raise the scholastic standards of the college. Dr. William J. Roberts was president from 1898 to 1903.

In 1889 Dr. A. J. Battle resigned as president of Mercer. Rev. G. A. Nunnally, of Anniston, Alabama, succeeded him. In 1890 John D. Rockefeller gave Mercer $10,000 through the American Baptist Education Society. On April 6, 1891, the new Chapel building was turned over to the trustees by Mr. C. B. Willingham, chairman of the Building Committee. At the end of 1892 Rev. Nunnally resigned and Dr. J. G. Gambrell, editor of the Mississippi Baptist Record and an able religious writer, accepted the presidency. Dr. Gambrell was prominently identified with the prohibition movement. In 1896 Dr. Gambrell resigned and for one year Mercer had no president, but was managed by Professor P. D. Pollock as Chairman of the Faculty. The following year Professor Pollock was made president. His administration was marked by increased harmony between faculty and students, by raised scholastic standards, by additions to the faculty, and by the construction of Science Hall and a Y.M.C.A. building. During many of the years of this period, Judge Emory Speer was dean of The Mercer Law School.

In 1881 the State Legislature appropriated $10,000 for the establishment of an institution for the blind colored children in co-ordination with the Georgia State Academy for the Blind. A lot on Madison Street was purchased and a substantial brick building erected. Mention has already been made of the establishment during this period of the Georgia Industrial School and of Macon's part in the organization of the Georgia School of Technology. In 1897 the Normal School was established to give professional training to those who were to become teachers in the public school system. Mrs. G. A. Alexander was elected principal. Upon the resignation of Mrs. Alexander, Miss Pearl Stephens was made principal and continued in that position until her death in 1923. Another school established here at this time was Ballard Normal School, which grew out of the old Lewis High School and was formally opened February 14, 1889. Mr. Wyatt and Mr. Martin, of Mississippi, established the Georgia, Alabama Business College here in 1889. The Pio Nono College was converted in 1887 into headquarters for the New Orleans or Southern Province of the Jesuit Order.

2—Other Cultural Agencies

One of the most active cultural organizations in Macon was the Athenaeum, an association of ladies and gentlemen who met for "intellectual culture and pleasant social intercourse and whose exercises embraced literary, elocutionary, and musical performances." Organized in 1881, it exerted for ten years a powerful influence on the cultural life of the city. Among its presidents were: Mr. Emory Winship, Dr. A. J. Battle, Hon. Walter B. Hill, and Rev. W. B. Jennings. In addition to sponsoring regular cultural programs, the club brought lecturers to Macon, worked for Lyceums and extension courses, and—on behalf of Mr. Charles Lanier—presented to the library a bronze bust of Sidney Lanier, a replica of the one placed in Johns Hopkins University.

In addition to the Athenaeum, other clubs which enriched Macon life were: the Mendelssohn Quartette Club, the Macon Musical Association, the Macon Dramatic Association, the Thespians, the Tatnall Square Musical Association, the Macon Choral Society, the *Cercle Francaise*, the Vineville Reading Club, the Current Topics Club, the History Club, and Harmonic Society.

Among the famous lecturers, readers, and authors who appeared in Macon during this period were: T. DeWitte Talmadge, Mrs. Sidney Lanier, Professor Lipscomb, General Fitzhugh Lee, James Whitcomb Riley, Bill Nye, Sunset Cox, Kate Thayer, Rev. John C. Eccleston, Father Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. Hayne, Rev. Thomas Alixon, General

Gordon, and Oscar Wilde, who "did not strike his moderately sized audience as being anything extraordinary."[53]

The library experienced during these years a turbulent cycle of prosperity and decline. Six years old at the beginning of this era, it was entering upon a period of great growth. In 1880 Mr. T. O. Chestney was president of the Board of Directors of the Macon Historical Society and Public Library. Mr. John T. Boiffeuillet, Jr., was secretary and treasurer of the Board, and Mr. C. Herbst was librarian. In 1880 the library had over 6,000 volumes and 400 members, who paid semi-annual dues of $2.00. Numerous entertainments and projects supplemented this source of income for the support of the library. Receipts for 1880 were $1,968.80 and expenses were $1,899.31. Among the men who served during these years as president of the Library and Historical Association's Board were: Mr. Fort, Judge T. J. Simmons, Mr. J. F. Hanson, Mr. J. M. Johnston, Mr. Hugh Washington, Mr. H. T. Powell, Mr. Ed Huguenin, Col. Dan Hughes, Mr. Osgood Willingham, Mr. George Plant, Professor Abbott, and Mr. George A. Smith.

The peak of the library's prosperity was reached in 1888 when a movement for a new library building was started. Funds for the building were raised by subscription and entertainments. A three-story building was constructed on Mulberry Street. The lower story was used for offices and the others for reading rooms, reception rooms, and chess room. Close upon the heels of this expansion, financial difficulties beset the library. When creditors entered suit against the organization, Mr. H. V. Washington, president of the Board of Directors, canvassed the city for subscriptions and the emergency was temporarily relieved. The library was forced repeatedly to ask its friends for help in order to avoid suits. In 1894 the directors, feeling that they could no longer save the tottering institution, offered the library to the Board of Education, but it was not accepted. Mr. Dan Hughes made an amicable settlement with Wilder Sons, chief creditors, and the library was once more saved. In 1895 the Ladies' Auxiliary to the library organized and made efforts to place it on a more solid financial foundation. In that year the first lady librarian, Mrs. N. L. Barberry, was elected.

Faced with an indebtedness of $1600, the directors were ashamed to ask the public again to rescue the library and announced October 5, 1898, that a committee had been appointed to close the institution. But the public was loath to abandon an organization that had meant so much to the cultural life of the city, and called a citizens' meeting to make plans for saving it. A new Board of Directors was chosen with the following officers: Mr. J. F. Hanson, Mr. Isaac Hardeman, Rabbi Marcuson, Mr. Howard Smith, and Mr. Stephen Popper.

53. The Telegraph and Messenger, July 4, 1882.

In the same year that the public library was thus struggling for survival, Mayor Price revealed plans for a Free Library and Industrial School, an outgrowth of the Mayor's plan for securing for every Macon home a copy of the daily paper. This library at the corner of Arch and First Streets opened January 7, 1898. The Industrial School was conducted by the Hebrew Young Ladies Aid Society. The librarian was Miss Sallie Boone.

A plan to consolidate the two libraries was suggested but never materialized. Help for both institutions came in 1898 when Bibb legislators, T. S. Felder and Roland Ellis, steered through the State Legislature two bills for Macon library relief. The bills provided that upon petition of 100 property owners, the Macon City Council and the Bibb County Commissioners should each appropriate $300 per year for each of the libraries to use in the purchase of books and magazines.

No agency had greater influence on cultural life than the newspapers. In 1880 *The Telegraph and Messenger* was owned and edited by Mr. Joseph Clisby and Mr. J. H. Jones, the latter having purchased the interest of Mr. A. W. Reese. In 1881 the firm of Clisby, Jones, and Reese was purchased by a number of men who organized the Telegraph and Messenger Publishing Company. From this date until 1887, the paper was controlled by Mr. J. F. Hanson. In 1885 Col. P. W. Alexander purchased an interest and for a few months was editor; but for the remaining years Mr. A. R. Lamar was editor-in-chief and Mr. H. S. Edwards was associate editor. Following the policies dictated by Mr. Hanson, Mr. Lamar and Mr. Edwards wrote such brilliant and vigorous editorials that *The Telegraph and Mesenger* became one of the leading newspapers in the South. Its circulation tripled, its advertising increased 125 per cent, and its finances were secure. Bold and fearless, the paper took issue with leading Georgia journals on every political question, and, although a notorious loser in politics, nevertheless originated and secured innumerable local and many state reforms. During the Hanson-Lamar-Edwards regime, the paper crusaded for a State Technological School, for the purging of the State Democratic Party, for a limitation of the powers of the State Railroad Commission, for a State Asylum for Inebriates (unachieved), for liquor reform through increased license rates rather than through prohibition, for a protective tariff, for training the negro to be self-supporting, against the state convict system, and for every local improvement that was made and many that were not. During this time the paper became a daily and in 1885 dropped "The Messenger" from its title, changed its size and type, and established an Atlanta staff.

Mr. J. H. Campbell bought controlling interest of the paper September 28, 1887, and its editorial policy became much more conservative. Mr. Campbell was an orthodox Democrat, and his views on free

trade and politics were much more pleasing to Macon citizens than had been those of his predecessor. However, the paper had lost much of its spicy zest. Mr. Lamar and Mr. Edwards resigned and a new Board of Directors (Mr. J. H. Campbell, Mr. M. Nussbaum, Mr. T D. Tinsley, Mr. S. T. Coleman, and Mr. George B. Turpin) was elected. Mr. F. H. Richardson undertook the editorial management, and Mr. Charles E. Campbell was business manager. Mr. Campbell died in February, 1888, and in August Mr. J. H. Estill purchased the paper from the Campbell estate.

In 1892, Mr. Estill sold his stock in the paper to Messrs. E. C. Machen, E. H. Coates, and J. T. Coates, who organized a new company. In addition to the purchasers the Board of Directors included: Messrs. H. J. Lamar, Sr., R. H. Plant, J. Dannenberg, W. M. Gordon, Bridges Smith, Roff Sims, and H. Horne.

The paper suffered difficulties (which have been traced in the section on Business) during the depression years. During the last years of the century many new departments and features were added. These gave the paper the appearance and content of modern journals. In November, 1896, Mr. C. R. Pendleton became editor. In 1899 he bought an interest in the paper.

A short-lived paper, *The Macon Sunday Times,* was established in 1888 by Mr. A. R. Lamar and Mr. H. S. Edwards.

"The Macon News was established on January 1, 1884, by J. B. Pound, who subsequently became the owner of large newspaper interests in Tennessee. A stock company was later organized with a paid invested capital of $20,000. The property was purchased from Mr. Pound, and Col. Albert R. Lamar, one of the most brilliant editorial writers in the South, was made editor, with Mr. Harry Stillwell Edwards as associate editor.

"At the death of Col: Lamar *The News* passed into the control of E. C. Machen, still remembered as a railroad builder, and John T. Boiffeuillet was made editor.

"A few years later *The News* was sold to Messrs. Cobb and Orr, from whom it was acquired by Hal P. Moore, who became its editor.

"In September, 1894, Mr. Moore sold the paper to R. L. McKenney and Thomas W. Loyless, who completely reorganized it under the name of the Macon News Printing Company. *The News* then entered upon the most vigorous period of its history."[54]

3—*Literature*

Sidney Lanier

In the second year of this period—September 9, 1881—Sidney Lanier died. Poet, musician, scholar, lawyer, and soldier—Lanier gave to Macon its primary claim to fame.

54. The Macon News Supplement, Op Cit.

Although many of his years were spent away from this city, Macon has every claim to the poet. Here, in a cottage on High Street (now owned and operated as a party house and historic center by Mrs. O. H. McAfee) on February 3, 1842, Sidney Lanier was born. Here with friends and relatives he enjoyed delightful hours making music that filled his sensitive soul with exaltation almost beyond enduring. Here, in 1867, he married Miss Mary Day. Here for five years (1868-1872) he studied and practiced law with his father. Here he returned for visits with his family.

The words which Lanier wrote his father appropriately summarize his life: "My dear father, think how for twenty years, through poverty, through pain, through weariness, through sickness, through the uncongenial atmosphere of a farcical college and of a bare army and then of an exacting business life, through all this discouragement of being wholly unacquainted with literary people and literary ways,— I say, think how, in spite of all these depressing circumstances, and of a thousand more which I could enumerate, these two figures of music and of poetry have steadily kept in my heart so that I could not banish them."

The "uncongenial atmosphere of a farcical college" was Oglethorpe College, which he entered when he was fourteen years old and from which he was graduated with highest honors in 1860. In 1861 he resigned his position as tutor at the college to volunteer as a private in the Confederate Army. He was captured while serving on a blockade runner and was imprisoned for five months at Point Lookout. In February, 1865, he was released, and returned to Georgia on foot, bringing with him his flute, from which he had never been separated. Weakened from the long imprisonment, he suffered a serious illness which left him consumptive and frail.

His novel, *Tiger Lilies,* was completed in 1867. His earliest poems, "The Dying Words of Stonewall Jackson" and "Night and Day", had been written in 1866. The "Jacquerie" was planned and begun in 1868, and in this year also "Life and Song" was written.

Giving up the unrewarding practice of law, Lanier settled in 1873 in Baltimore, where he obtained an engagement as first flutist in the Peabody Symphony Orchestra. Here were written the first poems that characterized his mature work. Among these were "My Springs", "In Absence", "Acknowledgment" and "Laus Mariae".

In the summer of 1874 he wrote "Corn", his first poem that attracted public recognition. It was published in *Lippincott's Magazine* for February, 1875. Four months later, the same magazine published his "The Symphony", a poem of musical beauty and real harmonic structure. In 1876 he was chosen to write the words of The Centennial Cantata. In this year he also wrote the beautiful "Evening Star"—

possibly his finest lyric; "Clover"; "The Waving of the Corn"; and "The Psalm of the West"—our finest centennial poem.

The following year Lanier's first collection of *Poems* was published. To this year also belong "The Stirrup-Cup", "The Song of the Chattahoochee"—perhaps his most popular lyric—, two of his best brief nature poems—"Tampa Robins" and "From the Flats"—, "The Mocking Bird", "The Bee", "Florida Sunday", and the poems "To Wagner" and "To Beethoven".

In 1878-79 Lanier wrote "The Revenge of Hamish" and "How Love Looked for Hell". Of these ballads Dr. Curtis Hidden Page wrote: "The first seems to me unsurpassed in narrative technique. Objectivity can no farther go. It is a masterpiece of absolute detachment, yet of wonderful vividness. The second is also remarkable for the way in which it clothes abstractions with life, and makes vivid the vague idea that where Love comes, there Hell cannot be." It was at this time that he wrote what is generally considered another masterpiece, "The Marshes of Glynn". In 1878 he wrote "To Bayard Taylor."

Early in 1879 Lanier was appointed Lecturer on English Literature in the Johns Hopkins University. In preparing for these lectures he wrote what in revised form constituted his most important prose work: *The Science of English Verse* and *The English Novel and Its Development.*

In the winter of 1880-1881, his illness advanced, and the poem "Sunrise" was written while he had a fever temperature of 104 when "the hand which pencilled its lines had not strength to carry nourishment to the lips."[55]

Macon's gentle poet died when his talent was growing. He left "a thousand songs that oppress me unsung". For this loss Macon still grieves. But for the poetry rich in music, warm in tender emotion, and complete in range; which he gave American literature—for this Macon will ever be proud.

Harry Stillwell Edwards

The twenty-one years of this period saw the beginning and height of Harry Stillwell Edwards' career. In addition to his work on local newspapers, Mr. Edwards published numerous stories and articles in national magazines. In March, 1896, he won the $10,000 prize in *The Chicago Record* mystery story competition. *Sons and Fathers,* a novel of the New South, was written in forty days. Deciding late to enter the contest, Mr. Edwards wrote each night from eleven o'clock until dawn, choosing a time that would be both quiet and cool. This thrilling, intensely dramatic novel, whose scenes were laid in Macon, was

55. The literary evaluations in this brief sketch are quoted from The Chief American Poets, edited by Curtis Hidden Page, Houghton Mifflin Company, The Riverside Press, Cambridge, 1905.

syndicated and published in serial form throughout the country. An additional $10,000 prize was offered to the person who should first guess its solution. The sensation created by this novel was comparable to Margaret Mitchell's *Gone with the Wind.*

George Gilman Smith

George Gilman Smith, a scholarly Methodist minister, moved with his family to Macon in 1883. He had served the North Georgia Conference in many charges and moved to Macon after his superannuation. He was correspondent for many years to *The Atlanta Journal*; and his column, *Letters from My Rolling Chair,* was widely read throughout the state. It was during his life in Macon that he wrote his *History of Georgia and Georgia People,* which is considered his greatest work and which remains today one of the most scholarly and authoritative histories of the state. His biographies include: *The Life of Bishop Asbury, The Life of Bishop Andrew,* and *The Life of Bishop George A. Pierce.* In addition to these books, he wrote many books for children, and several stories, most noted of which was "The Boy in Gray".

I—*Religion*

Until 1887 the religious population of Macon was composed of Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, and Jews. During these two decades many missions were established by the Mother Churches of these faiths. These missions were the beginnings of additional churches. Among the churches established, completed ,or expanded at this time were:

1—*St. Paul's*—An Episcopal Church. Planned in 1880. Completed in 1884.

2—*Tatnall Square Presbyterian*—January 9, 1887. Organized as the Second Presbyterian Church. Located at first as a mission on Ash and Calhoun Streets. Fostered by Rev. A. W. Clisby. The present church building was made possible by Mr. John J. Gresham.

3—*East Macon Presbyterian Church*—Mission work accomplished by Mr. T. J. C. Park, Mr. J. B. Bell, Miss Daisy Clisby, and Mrs. Nelson.

4—*Westminster Presbyterian*—A mission on Elm Street established during the pastorate of Rev. Clisby.

5—*Mulberry Methodist Church*—Remodeled in 1894.

6—*Vineville Methodist Church*—Reorganized in 1882. Church built 1894.

7—*First Baptist Church*—New building at the head of Poplar Street. Mr. C. B. Willingham chairman of Building Committee. The original building was destroyed by fire, and the new one started.



Macon Churches

The Lecture Room was completed and was being used, when it also was destroyed by fire. All denominations helped the Baptists raise funds for their new structure.

8—*Vineville Baptist Church*—Organized in the home of Judge John L. Hardeman, May 10, 1891. Church structure built on the corner of Vineville and Lamar.

9—*Tatnall Square Baptist*—Organized September 6, 1891 in the chapel of Mercer. Church erected at the corner of Adams and Ash in 1899.

10—*Mabel White Baptist*—Grew from a Sunday School organized in 1895 on Hanson Street by Dr. K. P. Moore and Mr. R. J. Taylor. The charter name given the church was Waverly Hall Missionary Baptist Church.

11—*Bellevue Baptist Church*—Organized in 1894 with thirteen charter members.

12—*St. Joseph's Catholic*—The Harris residence at Poplar and New, and the adjoining Hunt property were purchased in 1887, and plans were begun for a handsome church. Mr. Woodruff completed plans for the modified Romanesque temple in 1889. The

church was dedicated June 6, 1892 at a high pontifical mass, the first of this kind ever held in Macon and attended by the largest inter-denominational congregation ever seen in Macon. However, the church was not completed and opened for services until two years after this period ended.

13—*The First Christian Church*—Organized in 1887 at Masonic Hall on Mulberry Street (site of today's Persons Building) with fourteen charter members. The chief organizer was Mr. L. M. Erwin. A small frame building was erected on Walnut Street in 1888. A new church was built in 1897 at Orange and High Streets.

14—*Christian Science*—"The message of Christian Science was first brought to Macon in 1891-92, and established permanently by one who located here in 1896 as a practitioner and teacher of spiritual healing. From this beginning First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Macon was organized April 6, 1896, as a branch of the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts. On the 8th day of July, 1896, a special term of the Bibb Superior Court, called by Judge William Felton, Jr., convened and granted the petitioners their charter enabling this church to conduct services in conformity with their interpretation of the teachings of the Bible, and the Christian Science textbook, Science and Health, with Key to Scriptures, by Mary Baker Eddy."[56]

In addition to Christian Science, other new religions introduced to Macon during this period were Desciples of Christ, Greek Orthodox, Theosophists.

J—*Deaths*

The Victorian fetish for ceremony and pageantry was reflected in funeral traditions of this era. Mourning was highly formal and large public funerals were characteristic of the times. For the funeral of all public figures business houses closed, bells tolled, organizations passed resolutions of sorrow, long processions of dignitaries attended, and eloquent obsequies were published. The death of any prominent citizen was considered a community loss and an occasion for community mourning. Among such deaths were:[57]

1—Col. H. B. Troutman—January 8, 1880. Built one of the first stores in Macon. A State Senator.

2—B. Frank Ross—September 15, 1880—Former mayor of Macon and Captain of the Floyd Rifles.

3—Mrs. Isaac Winship—June 11, 1888.

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56. The Macon News Supplement, Op Cit, p. 36.
57. Any omissions are due either to gaps in the newspaper files or to unintentional oversight of the compiler.

4—W. W. Wadley—August 10, 1882. President of the Georgia Central Railroad.

5—George Payne—May 15, 1883.Prominent druggist. One of Macon's pioneer citizens.

6—R. C. Wilder—May 17, 1883. Former county commissioner. Son of one of the founders of Bibb County.

7—Sylvanus Bates—May 27, 1883. Principal of the Alexander Free School.

8—Mrs. Simri Rose—October, 1883. Wife of one of Macon's founders.

9—John C. Curd—November, 1883. President of the Exchange Bank.

10—Col. George H. Hazlehurst—November, 1883. Railroad constructor. At one time president of the Macon and Augusta and of the Macon and Brunswick Railroads.

11—Mr. Joseph Clisby—February 26, 1885. Owner and editor of *The Georgia Telegraph*. Five years after he purchased the paper, it became a daily, the first to succeed in Macon. In 1869 he bought *The Journal and Messenger,* and the two papers were consolidated into *The Telegraph and Messenger,* which is *The Macon Telegraph* of today. He continued this paper for twenty-five years on the highest journalistic plane, running it uninterrupted through the years of the Civil War. He was known as "the Georgia sage" on political, financial, and philosophical issues. Sidney Lanier referred to Mr. Clisby's advocacy of diversified farming when he wrote:

> "And presently", says he, "Hit's true
> That Clisby's head is level . . ."[58]

First president of the County Board of Education, he passionately espoused the cause of education . . . "The entire South grieved at his death . . . He was a sound, judicious, and original thinker and always worked for the welfare of the people."[59]

12—Col. Andrew J. Lane—January 2, 1886. Colonel of Forty-ninth Georgia Volunteer in the Civil War. Railroad constructor. Bibb legislator.

13—Col. L. N. Whittle—February 17, 1886. State legislator, Railroad director, President of the Board of Directors of the State Lunatic Asylum, of the State Academy for the Blind, of the Board of Public Education, and of the Macon Free School; Trustee of the Alexander Free School, of the University of Georgia; Senior Warden of Christ Church.

14—Mrs. John L. Jones—March 17, 1886. Benefactress of Christ Church.

58. "Jones' Private Argument", by Sidney Lanier.
59. Centennial Issue of The Macon Telegraph, clipping from scrap book in Georgia Room of Wesleyan Library.

15—Mr. E. E. Brown—June 12, 1886. Magistrate for eighteen years. Projected the original Brown House.

16—Dr. Appleton P. Collins—December 8, 1886. City Physician.

17—Samuel H. Jemison—December 21, 1886. City Attorney and Recorder. Legislator.

18—Col. Pulaski S. Holt—July 12, 1886. At the time of his death, the oldest graduate of the University of Georgia and the oldest lawyer in Georgia.

19—Justice Samuel Hall—August 20, 1886. Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

20—Mr. William B. Johnston—October 20, 1886. One of Macon's wealthiest citizens. A self-made and an enterprising man, he owned the largest jewelry store between Macon and New Orleans. He married Miss Annie Tracy. He was in control of the Confederate Depository here. Immediately after the war he was president of the Central Railroad and led in raising $100,000 to rebuild the parts destroyed by Sherman. He was organizer and a director of the City Bank, a director and lessee of the State Road. He built the handsome $100,000 mansion on Georgia Avenue later occupied by Judge Felton and today by the P. L. Hays.

21—James H. Campbell—February 5, 1888. Proprietor at one time of *The Macon Telegraph*.

22—Rev. Cosby Smith—April 5, 1888. Wesleyan professor for many years.

23—Emory Winship—April 6, 1888. Trustee of Wesleyan College. Prominent in business and church circles.

24—Hon. Samuel C. Chambliss—December 18, 1888. Former legislator from Bibb and Confederate veteran.

25—Col. Lucius M. Lamar—February 25, 1889. United States Marshal for the Southern District of Georgia. Reared in Macon by Mrs. Absolom H. Chappell. Captain of the Macon Guards. Confederate veteran.

26—Nathan Monroe Solomon—March, 1889. Partner in S. T. Coleman Company.

27—Col. A. R. Lamar—May 19, 1889. Confederate veteran. One of the most brilliant editorials writers in the South. Editor of *The Telegraph and Messenger* and of *The Macon News*.

28—Mr. S. T. Coleman—May 26, 1889. Self-made merchant prince. President of S. T. Coleman Company. Generous, modest, and diffident.

29—Sister Margaret—April 19, 1890. Founder of the Order of St. Catherine in Macon; head of Appleton Home.

30—Mr. Adolph Bernd—January 31, 1890. Harness manufacturer.

31—Col. John Thomas Hardeman—March 7, 1891. One of the pillars

of the Georgia Bar. Represented Bibb at the State Assembly and Senate. Elected to Congress from this district when secession came. Confederate veteran. Captain of Floyd Rifles. Major Colonel of the Forty-fifth Georgia. Speaker of the State House. One of the last Georgians to be re-enfranchised. Influential in reorganizing the Democratic Party. Twice candidate for governor against Colquitt. President of the Georgia State Agricultural Society. Congressman from the State at large. He never lost a political campaign in Bibb.

32—Col. Rutherford—March, 1891. Brilliant attorney. His defense of Tom Wollfolk considered a classic in Georgia criminology.

33—Mr. Richard W. Cubbedge—June 14, 1891. Prominent citizen and member of the Board of Education.

34—Mrs. Thomas Hardeman—October 15, 1891. She made the first Confederate flag, presenting it in April, 1861 to the Floyd Rifles.

35—Judge John Jones Gresham—October 15, 1891. First honor graduate of the University of Georgia. Lawyer and farmer. Organized the Macon Manufacturing Company. With Nathan Munroe, William B. Johnston, and Thaddeus G. Holt, he built the cotton mill on Oglethorpe Street. For over thirty years, treasurer of the Macon Free School. President of the Alexander Free School. Member of the County Board of Education from the time of its organization. Twice elected mayor of Macon. Justice of the Inferior Court for four years. Elected to the State Senate. Instrumental in building the Second Presbyterian Church. High School named in his honor. He enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens to a remarkable degree.

36—Judge C. J. Harris—January 21, 1893. Identified with every interest of the city. Father of one of the finest families in the state, every member being known for ability and character.

37—Hon. L. Q. C. Lamar—January 23, 1893. Died at the home of his step-daughter, Mrs. W. H. Virgin. He was Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, former Secretary of the Interior. His wife was the widow of General William Holt. He was related to Col. H. J. Lamar and Mrs. A. O. Bacon, of Macon. His funeral was one of the largest ever held in Macon and an event of national importance. He was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery, but his body was removed in 1894 to Oxford, Mississippi.

38—Col. H. H. Jones—February 13, 1893. Interest in *The Macon Telegraph.*

39—Judge Richard F. Lyon—May 25, 1893. Oldest and one of ablest members of the Macon Bar.

40—Mr. Joseph M. Boardman—June 27, 1893. President of the Macon

Gas Light and Water Company. President of the Macon Savings Bank.

41—Mr. George C. Price—October 18, 1893. Only candidate for mayor in the election pending at the time of his death. Grocery and Real Estate business.

42—Major J. B. Cobb—November 21, 1893. Brother of General Howell Cobb. President of the Macon Board of Underwriters. Director of the Bibb Building and Loan Association.

43—Rev. E. W. Warren——November 26, 1893. Pastor of the Tatnall Square Baptist Church and for many years pastor of the First Baptist Church.

44—Mr. Myron Nussbaum—January 27, 1894. One of Macon's leading merchants. First to build a large wholesale storehouse. Leader in many civic projects.

45—Mr. Thomas Wood—February 9, 1894. A Macon pioneer, he came here in 1829.

46—Col. R. S. Lamar.

47—Senator Colquitt—March 26, 1894. Senator from Georgia, former governor. Although he was not a Macon citizen, his funeral was held here. His cousin, Col. William H. Ross, received the body and the Senatorial escort. Captain John L. Hardeman was marshal of the funeral, which was on the scale of the funeral of L. Q. C. Lamar.

48—Judge James T. Nisbet—April 29, 1894. Former editor of *The Journal and Messenger,* leading Whig paper of central Georgia. Prominent lawyer and member of the Board of Education.

49—General Phil Cook—May 22, 1894. Georgia's Secretary of State.

50—Mr. Virgil Powers. Member of the State Railroad Commission, the Board of Education, Trustee of the Academy for the Blind, Surveyor for the Central Railroad from Macon to Savannah. Member of the Public Works Commission.

51—Dr. J. O. A. Clark—September 4, 1894. Methodist preacher, author, scholar. Trustee of Wesleyan and of Emory. Founder of Wesley Monumental Church of Savannah.

52—Judge R. K. Hines—September 20, 1894. Prominent member of the Macon Bar.

53—Mrs. Mary E. Baber—October 3, 1894. Macon's oldest citizen. Widow of Ambrose Baber, pioneer citizen.

54—Dr. W. C. Bass—November 15, 1894. One of Methodism's "giants". Former president of Wesleyan College. Beloved by all citizens of Macon.

55—Mr. John G. McGoldrick—March 28, 1894.

56—Judge George W. Gustin—May 5, 1895. Judge of the Macon Superior Court, State senator from the Twenty-second District,

legislator from Bibb, Chairman of the Bibb Democratic Committee for many years.

57—Mr. Robert Weston Patterson—June 26, 1895. Shot and killed in the Oklahoma Teritory, where he was serving as Registrar of the United States Land Office. Formerly City Recorder of Macon, City Attorney, and Bibb legislator.

58—Judge Richard H. Clark—February 14, 1896. Judge of the Stone Mountain Circuit. A great Georgia statesman. Buried at Rose Hill.

59—Mr. Richard Barfield—February 22, 1896. Pioneer of Bibb County.

60—Mr. Sol Waxelbaum—May 9, 1896. One of Macon's leading merchants. Prominent in all projects for civic improvement.

61—Col. W. A. Lofton—May 21, 1896. Bibb legislator. Delegate to the State convention which formed the State Constitution. Early member of the Macon Public Library and Historical Association. One of Macon's most learned lawyers.

62—Professor Skelton P. Sanford—August 9, 1896. Mercer faculty member and author of many arithmetic textbooks.

63—Dr. John S. Baxter. Surgeon in the Confederate army. President of the Southwestern Railroad. With W. B. Johnston, originated the first artificial ice company in Macon. One of the incorporators of the Macon Brewing Company. Director of the Macon Water Works, of the Central Georgia Bank, of the Macon Fire Insurance Company, of the Macon Building Loan Association Company, and of the Ocmulgee Land Company.

64—Mr. Henry J. Lamar—December 25, 1896. President of the Exchange Bank, of Lamar Drug Company of Atlanta and of six drug stores in Macon. Plantation owner. Chief owner of S.S.S. and Bradfield's Regulator. A public-spirited citizen, he purchased the Strong home and was one of the early settlers of Vineville.

65—Mr. Henry Lee Jewett—January 28, 1897. Pioneer citizen. Treasurer of the Macon Construction Company and of the G.S.&F. First treasurer of the Southwestern Railroad. Trustee of Wesleyan and treasurer of the Board for twenty years. Trustee of the Academy for the Blind for twenty years, trustee of the Elam Alexander School. President of the Capital Bank, and director of the First National Bank.

66—Mr. Joseph E. Willet—January 31, 1892. For fifty years professor of chemistry at Mercer. Later honored by the Bergelies National Science Society.

67—Rev. J. W. Burke—August 20, 1897. Beloved Methodist minister. President of J. W. Burke and Company. For twenty-five years publisher and assistant editor of the *Southern Methodist Christian Advocate*. Member of the Board of Education, Alexander Free

School trustee. Trustee of Wesleyan and of Emory. Grand Master of Knights' Templar.

68—Col. Benjamin Lawton Willingham—February 17, 1898. Cotton warehouse business. Senior Deacon of the First Baptist Church. He was recognized as the truest type of Christian gentleman and business man. He did much quiet, unostentatious charity. He raised a family that excited admiration throughout the state: four daughters (Mrs. W. S. Payne, Mrs. W. T. Johnston, Mrs. C. W. Lawton, of Macon) and nine sons (C. B., O. P., B. E., E. J., P. D., E. P., B. B., of Macon)—each one an honor to his community.

69—Mr. Jeff Lane—June 19, 1898. General Superintendent of the G.S.&F. Railroad.

70—Hon. S. B. (Daisy) Price—November 22, 1899. Confederate veteran, grocery business. Mayor of Macon for many terms, six of which were successive. He was the leader in many movements for the improvement of the city—bridges, paved streets, improved water, and many others.

71—Mr. Thomas C. Dempsey—July 4, 1899. Prominent capitalist, he left a vast estate in Bibb. His widow lived in the old Dempsey mansion on College Street.

72—Hon. Walter B. Hill—July 14, 1899. At one time a citizen of Macon. Chancellor of the State University.

73—Judge Clifford Anderson—December 19, 1899. One of Georgia's most brilliant men and most talented lawyers. Former partner of Mr. Lanier. His eldest sister married Mr. Lanier and was the mother of Sidney Lanier. He was several times elected to the State Legislature. Captain in the Confederate army. He was elected to the Confederate States Congress. He saved his people much suffering during the Reconstruction period. Attorney General for the state, and one of the codifiers of the Georgia Code of 1895.

74—Mr. Henry Gershon Cutler—July 12, 1900. Merchant, vice-president of the Macon Savings Bank, secretary and treasurer of more Macon institutions than any man who ever lived here. Brother of Mrs. Ashir Ayres.

75—Mr. O. G. Sparks, Sr.—October 30, 1900. Former Mayor of Macon. Warehouse business, the largest in Middle Georgia. Prominently identified with civic activities.

Chapter VII

THE CENTURY TURNS

SECTION I

Pre-War Activities

I. Early Twentieth Century Progress

As Macon somewhat soberly watched the dying 1900 give place to 1901 and the beginning of a new century, she, too, was entering upon a new epoch — an era that was to remove her from the status of a village and to cast her destiny with the lot of the cities of America. This was the day when one could buy "Ready-made sheets, made of good quality, ten-quarter sheeting" for 48 cents each, spool cotton at 50 cents per dozen, men's suits of cheviot, worsted, serge, or flannel at $5.98; and when one could rent a nine room house on Vineville Avenue for $25 or a fourteen room house on Cherry Street for $50. But it was also a day when starting salaries of $15 weekly were considered excellent business opportunities for young men.

The infant century was a witness to a sort of carry-over of a move begun during the dark days of the reconstruction period following the War Between the States. This was a move toward mob rule, a disregard of organized legal control. Lynchings were frequent and violent. The Russo-Japanese War was in progress, and a general feeling of political unrest disturbed the national mind.

Locally, however, industrial growth demanded first consideration, and daily the citizens of the town were facing problems incident to that growth. The city began to expand along all lines of endeavor.

A—Civic Development

1. Population Increase.

The population of Macon in 1900 according to statistics of the census of the U. S. Department of Commerce was 23,272, but by 1910 this figure had almost doubled and had grown to 40,665, a gain of 74.7 per cent. This was phenomenal in view of the past decade which had showed a gain of less than 1,000 over the 1890 figure of 22,746. Increase continued to the period of the First World War but more gradually after the first decade.

2. Incorporation of Outlying Areas.

This initial population gain was due in large measure to the extension of the corporate city limits. In January, 1903, a move was begun to bring Vineville within the limits of the city, and a bill was introduced at the next session of the Legislature requesting annexation of both Vineville and Huguenin Heights. In July a committee of five citizens appeared before the Legislature in its behalf reminding the legislators that Macon was still bound by the same limits laid out for it as a village seventy-five years before. This committee composed of Judge John P. Ross representing Huguenin Heights, Emmett Barnes representing Vineville, L. P. Hillyer, Judge Robert Hodges, and E. J. Willingham must have argued convincingly as the bill was carried on August 6th with only ten votes cast against it, in spite of the opposition of Macon's own Representative Joe Hill Hall. Opponents of annexation immediately began to fight the move, their first step being the filing of a petition to stop the annexation act. When this petition was denied locally, on grounds that the territory was already officially annexed, the case was appealed first to the State Supreme Court and finally to the Supreme Court of the United States where the decision in each appeal ruled that the annexation was valid, the final decision being handed down in December, 1904.

Hardly had city improvements in the new areas been completed when in 1907 "Greater Macon" became a city slogan. At this time there was talk of a proposal to be presented to the Legislature covering the extension of Vineville westward to Holt Avenue and north to the old Jesuit College, St. Stanislaus, excluding only the district around Payne Mill called Payne City. Also urged for incorporation was a section of South Macon to Daly's store and all of the thickly settled portion of East Macon. Incorporation of these areas was put to popular vote, and in three separate elections large territorial gains were effected. In November, 1908, Vineville residents voted to extend their limits to those which remained fixed until the inclusion of Ingleside and North Vineville in 1948. In early March, 1910, the annexation of South Macon, Western Heights, and Napier Heights was carried, and a week later East Macon, which had petitioned to come into the city in February, 1909, by a majority of only 50 votes carried annexation. The final step in the extension of city limits before the war came in July, 1913, in the form of a petition of some residents of Cherokee Heights to City Council. This was immediately followed by a petition of protest with a copy of the protest to be sent legislators who already had the bill of incorporation under advisement. However, this bill passed in August, 1913, and thus enlarged the city to the boundaries that it kept for 40 years with one exception.

Of course, the incorporation of these areas brought on the need for extension of sewerage, of street lights, of paving, and of fire protection

in these areas. As an example of the speed with which these improvements were made, street lights burned in Vineville and in Huguenin Heights by May 12, 1904.

B—Public Building Program

With metamorphosis from village to town to city came an urgent need for more space to house county and city agencies of government, for gathering places for large groups of citizens, and for extension of postal services to a growing population. This need was met by a public building program which can best be studied under three separate headings.

1. Changes in the City Hall.

Early in 1901 plans were announced for an auditorium which was to be built on a lot back of the City Hall, and by July 4th of that year plans had been completed by Alexander Blair for a structure which would seat 7,000 with aisle and lobby room for an additional 1,000 persons. Bids were to be opened on that date and construction was to be completed by October 1st in time for the Confederate Veterans' Reunion to be held in the city during that month. However, almost immediate opposition to this plan began to be felt in a threatened move to take out an injunction to prevent the city from building an auditorium. Then the city authorities decided to cut the cost of the proposed building by making it an annex to the City Hall to cost not more than $10,000. This, too, drew fire from the opposition who claimed it beyond the power of the city to build either an auditorium or an annex and who enjoined it to make a show of its public indebtedness and to produce plans and specifications for the proposed building at a court hearing on August 1st. The chief grievance of these business men seemingly lay in their belief that the cost of the building had been saved from public funds at the expense of a new fire engine house which would have lowered insurance rates for city property owners.

Thus stymied in its efforts to so provide convention space for the rapidly approaching Veterans' Reunion, the city resorted to a suggestion by one citizen of converting the central room of the old City Market into a temporary auditorium. Even this plan was opposed by an injunction taken out in late August, 1901, by four owners of adjoining property to prevent the use of the Market House for an auditorium. This structure built in 1887 largely through the efforts of Alexander Proudfit had been erected through money obtained from a bond issue whose final maturity date was 1917, and the objecting individuals feared that the temporary use as an auditorium would become a permanent change thereby lowering the value of their property. When convinced, however, that the intended change was not permanent their

injunction was withdrawn. So on October 15, 1901, work was begun on the conversion of the Market House to an auditorium.

The move for a permanent auditorium was by no means killed. A public subscription campaign began, and in 1903 the idea finally reached fruition. New plans drawn by Denney and Ellis first provided for an auditorium to be built on the triangular lot on Cotton Avenue adjoining the City Hall with the main entrance on Cotton Avenue. An auditorium commission composed of J. W. Cabaniss, E. A. Waxelbaum, R. J. Taylor, E. J. Willingham, T. D. Tinsley, Aleck Block, Leon S. Dure, and J. A. Newcomb decided to apply for a charter under the name of the Macon Auditorium Company with a capital stock of $20,000. However, this became unnecessary when the city voted a bond issue of $20,000 for the auditorium on July 7, 1903.

A building committee of aldermen including Morris Happ, B. L. Jones (who had formerly led the opposition), and T. O. Chestney announced some seven months later that the new building was to be eight feet from the western side of the City Hall facing Poplar Street, siding on First Street, and not connected with the City Hall. When the bonds were finally sold in July, 1904, final plans emerged in the form of an addition to the City Hall. The contract was let in August, and on August 24, 1904 the first brick for the new auditorium was laid by Mayor Bridges Smith, the second by City Attorney Wimberly. On March 8, 1905, the new auditorium was opened to Macon people for the first time. Guttenberger's orchestra furnished music for the occasion, and the speech of presentation was made by Master Martin Meath, a lad of six years.

Thus the old building so full of tradition increased its scope of usefulness. Built in 1838 by the Monroe Railway and Banking Company as its chief headquarters, the building had served as a cotton warehouse from the sale of that road in 1845 till about 1860 when it was bought by the City and made the City Hall. During Reconstruction it had housed sixteen Republican Conventions, and only about nine years previously it had been remodeled and restuccoed.

After the completion of the enlarged auditorium the building underwent no further change until 1911 when improvements made in the old structure provided offices for the newly created Board of Water Commissioners, a fireproof vault for storing records, and general interior remodeling.

The most extensive program of remodeling of the City Hall was planned with a $100,000 bond issue put to vote on June 27, 1916, for the hospital and for remodeling the auditorium a second time. Already Alexander Blair had worked out plans which called for changing everything except the colonial style of the building and the basement. But, in spite of the successful carrying of the bond issue, this remodeling

was not done because public sentiment favored holding money from the bond issue for a time until an adequate separate auditorium could be financed. A recommendation to City Council to this effect was sent on February 1, 1917, by the Rotary Club.

2. Courthouse.

The drive to improve the house of county government agencies was somewhat slower and did not reach its culmination in this pre-war period. In 1901 a slight change was made in the existent structure in the form of a fireproof annex for county records. Complaints were frequent, and the spring Grand Jury of 1907 in its report covered the need for improvement of the building. On October 6, 1908, Tax Receiver Robert J. Anderson, Tax Collector Jones, and Sheriff Robertson petitioned the County Commissioners to provide them office space in the Courthouse outside of the basement. When their efforts failed, the office of the tax collector was moved across Mulberry to a store formerly occupied by the Coca-Cola Bottling Company. The reason given for the move was several cases of fever which had developed because of unsanitary conditions of the Courthouse basement.

In January, 1910, the Grand Jury recommended to the people a $500,000 bond issue which would cover, among other improvements, the construction of a new Courthouse. Finally a $1,050,000 bond issue covering the building of the Courthouse, the expansion of schools, extended hospital funds, and funds for roads and bridges was defeated in an election held on November 3, 1914, because it failed to secure a majority of votes of the number of registered voters. This was due primarily to the failure of a large number of individuals to vote. Thus the building of a new Courthouse was temporarily relegated to the background.

3. Postoffice.

The drive to obtain an enlarged Federal Building began on August 7, 1900, with resolutions toward that end passed by the Chamber of Commerce. By early January, 1902, a petition asking Congress to appropriate $500,000 for such a building was being widely circulated. Congressman Charles L. Bartlett undertook sponsorship of the bill upon its introduction into Congress about a month later, and this bill asked for $300,000 to enlarge the building already in use and to buy additional land. A Macon committee composed of T. D. Tinsley, William McEwen Johnston, J. W. Cabaniss, C. R. Pendleton, N. E. Harris, and George A. Smith made a special trip to Washington where they appeared before the Committee on Public Buildings on February 28th. At first the Committee recommended an appropriation of $75,000 which included $58,000 that had already been promised. Later, however, they set $156,000 as their recommended figure, and the House adopted the report of the Committee. So matters rested until December

of 1902 when Congressman Bartlett introduced a bill asking $306,000 for the construction of a marble building of adequate size. In this form the bill passed both houses and was signed by the President on March 4, 1903, with work scheduled to begin on October 1st. The government was a bit slow in providing plans satisfactory to all parties; in fact, there was much opposition on the part of some individuals to the demolition of the old building. One of these opponents was Judge Emory Speer who occupied a portion of the old structure as Judge of the Superior Court. In late December, 1903, approximately one-fourth of the Mulberry to Third Street block had been purchased for $31,000, and on this newly acquired land was the old Davis Livery Stable which was to be converted into temporary postoffice quarters. However, as on July 15, 1905, with all plans ready, work was still being held up and Judge Speer still had not consented to move, a suggestion was made Judge Bartlett by Secretary of the Treasury M. L. Shaw that the old portion of the building occupied by Judge Speer be left standing and the rest torn down. Quoting from Secretary Shaw's letter to Congressman Bartlett: "Of course, it will mar the appearance, but it is the only way anything can be done until after Congress convenes." He suggested that the city could get an additional appropriation later to tear out and replace the old section. Judge Speer claimed that he was not refusing to move but simply awaiting a decision on the legality of building the new postoffice on the foundations of the old one. With matters still in a somewhat unsettled state, the Mankin Construction Company of Richmond, Virginia, which had been awarded the contract broke ground on September 16, 1905, when it began to clear the newly acquired section of land. A ruling on September 26th ordered destruction of the old building, but on October 3rd just as workmen were ready to proceed with the razing, an order from Washington stopped work on the building. The final step in this pre-construction wrangle was an order by President Roosevelt on October 14th stating that the original contract (which provided for demolition) must be carried out, and work was to be resumed. Judge Speer had a final word, too, reserving the right to select his own temporary quarters and adjourning his court on October 18th till the first Monday in May "because said courts are now without a courtroom."

The building now began to take shape. The outside was Roman-Ionic in style, and it was built of Georgia marble. The building was well designed to provide excellent working conditions for federal employees, and it was a structure whose appearance added to the dignity of the rapidly developing business section of the city. As it was originally planned the postoffice occupied the first floor. On the second were offices of the Judge of the United States Circuit Court and a court room. Offices of the United States marshal occupied one end of the third floor with a room for the weather bureau at the opposite end.

By July, 1908, work was nearing completion and the temporary postoffice was offered for sale and bought by Ed Waxelbaum for $250 on the condition that it be removed within two weeks of discontinuance of operation in it. On Friday, August 7, 1908, postal operations began in the new building.

During this entire period of construction Harry Stillwell Edwards was postmaster, a position which he filled until 1913 when Custis Nottingham who had been recommended by Senator A. O. Bacon was appointed to succeed him by President Wilson, and his appointment confirmed by the Senate. Postal receipts showed a steady increase each year, and in 1915 the local office saw a great increase in the deposits made in the newly organized United States Postal Savings Bank.

By June 15, 1916, business had grown to a point where it was necessary to make a $75,000 addition to the building, and in 1917 the Federal government spent $7,000 in making interior repairs.

C—Growth of Institutions Designed Toward Civic Betterment

1. Hospitals.

In the early part of the pre-war period the Macon Hospital forged ahead in a steady if somewhat unspectacular way. During the summer of 1901 a new annex (to the hospital) entirely for negroes was added. At a cost of $3,000 sixteen beds were provided in wards on each floor with an additional two private rooms on each.

On April 9, 1903, the charter of the organization having been amended to provide for its establishment, the Macon Hospital School of Nursing was organized, and on May 4, 1904, Miss Helen Louise Burns of Macon and Mrs. Mary Evans Brown of Hampton, S. C., received the first diplomas granted to graduate nurses by the hospital in a ceremony of presentation by Minter Wimberly. In November of the same year Dr. E. B. Elder, head of the hospital, leased the old Ralph Small residence on the corner of Pine and Spring for what was called "The only hospital nurses' home in the State."[1] This is the corner currently occupied by the Doctors' Building.

By 1907 the hospital had sent out enough graduate nurses to foster the formation of an organization to be called the "Graduate Nurses' Association of Macon, Georgia". Miss Margaret Borthwick, who was superintendent of nurses at the hospital, was named honorary president. Miss Burns, the first graduate, became acting president, Miss Jessie M. Lynch was named vice-president, and Miss Bessie Bell Napier was chosen secretary-treasurer at the organization meeting on February 12, 1907.

During the latter part of 1914 City Council entertained a plan to

1. Macon Telegraph—Issue November 7, 1904.

float bonds to take over the Macon Hospital, and on January 14, 1915, Council passed an ordinance providing for a special election on a $300,000 bond issue covering paving, sewerage extension, and the taking over and improving of the hospital. The election in March was carried by a large majority. Meantime definite plans for the transfer had been made including the setting up of a five man Board of Hospital Commissioners. Originally this plan called for one commissioner to be appointed by the Board of Directors of the hospital, one to be chosen by City Council, one to be named by the County Commissioners, and the other two ex-officio members to be the Mayor, and the Chairman of the County Commissioners, the lengths of the terms of office of the elected members to be staggered. As it was carried out, the plan was slightly different in that no provision was made about the choosing of the first three commissioners, the choice being left up to the City Council. There was some unfavorable reaction to the change of plans as the County, which annually appropriated $6,000 to hospital support, was left unrepresented on the board of control. The Commission originally chosen in June, 1915, however, was quite satisfactory. It consisted of O. A. Park elected to serve a six year term because he had formerly served on the Hospital Board, C. B. Lewis chosen for a four year term, and Alfred R. Willingham elected for a two year term. The Mayor and Chairman J. B. Riley of the city's Finance Committee were the first ex-officio members. A bill naming this slate and providing that future vacancies were to be filled by the Mayor and City Council was drafted, sent to the Legislature, and passed. At the first meeting of the Commission on July 9, 1915, O. A. Park was named chairman of the group and C. B. Lewis, vice-chairman.

As a result of the failure to allow the County Commissioners a voice in the Commission that body refused to increase its annual appropriation from $6,000 to $10,000 as it was requested to do in September, 1915. Later, however, this body was most generous in its provision of county funds.

By Christmas of 1915 plans for a large new hospital extension to be erected on the corner of Pine and New Streets had been drawn by Edward F. Stevens of Boston and Alexander Blair of Macon. This extension was to consist of three new buildings, and they were to be connected to the old portion with fireproof corridors. When the time came to receive bids on the proposed construction, the Board of Commissioners rejected all as the lowest one was $134,000 where they had anticipated spending only $100,000. Of the $150,000 realized from the 1915 bond issue $25,000 had already been used to pay off indebtedness, and $36,000 had been expended to buy two separate pieces of property on New Street. The old Ballard school had been bought with the idea of remodeling it into a nurses' home, and this proposed work had not been included in these bids. So in April, 1916, a $100,000 additional

bond issue was proposed to Council. In the face of growing war hysteria this bond issue with an extra amount for the remodeling of the City Hall auditorium carried on June 27, 1916.

On October 31, 1916, the ceremonies of laying the cornerstone of the new $250,000 hospital extension were conducted by the officers of the Georgia Grand Lodge of Masons with Grand Master T. H. Ballard presiding. Grand Secretary Frank Baker led in prayer and O. A. Park who was still chairman of the Board of Hospital Commissioners made the principal address giving a sketch of the history of the institution since its founding by the King's Daughters in the nineties. A copper box containing interesting data and statistics was inserted in the opening, the stone was put in, and the ceremonies concluded with the symbolic testing of the stone and the pouring on of corn, wine, and oil. At the conclusion of the ceremonies it was turned over to the city.

The last phase of pre-war hospital improvements was the letting of the contract for remodeling the old Ballard school building for a nurses' home. The chapel portion of this old building on New Street facing the hospital is in use today as student nurses' classrooms.

One additional phase of hospital development must be noted during this period. On November 5, 1910, announcement was made that Dr. Howard Williams had bought a lot on Spring Street for $4,500 with the intention of erecting a $25,000 private hospital. This institution, now called Middle Georgia Hospital, was opened in 1911.

2. Orphanages.

During the first fifteen years of the twentieth century progress the two non-denominational orphanages previously established received some additional support. On July 27, 1905, it was announced that the Georgia Industrial Home was to receive $10,000 from the estate of J. O. Baskin of Pulaski County. Later in June, 1907, the Odd Fellows of Macon began work on a move to raise $5,000 to complete Mumford Memorial Hall at this Home. This fraternal order has consistently continued its support to the institution.

In 1906 the Hephzibah Orphanage, which had begun as a private project of Miss Mollie Tyler and her sister, Miss Bettie Tyler, at their home in Bolingbroke, was operating in the Ross Home in Vineville near Crumps Park. This home, dependent entirely upon the support of interested friends, took children under six years of age and was in urgent need of more space. Through the contributions of interested friends, the home expanded its program. But on June 18, 1912, the Hephzibah suffered an $11,000 loss of three buildings by fire, only about half of the loss covered by insurance. Before it had recovered from this blow, the remainder of the orphanage burned on July 6, 1912. Children were cared for through temporary arrangements until August

7, 1912, when transactions were completed for the purchase by the Hephzibah of what was called the "old Jacques Place" on the Forsyth Road. There its operation has been continuous.

The outstanding move during these years in connection with orphanages was the establishment of a new orphanage, the Masonic Home. If any one individual could be singled out as most instrumental in the establishment of this new institution, credit should probably be given to Senator A. O. Bacon who in 1901 offered ten acres of land valued at about $5,000 to the Masons of the state on condition that it be used for the building of an orphanage. When it became apparent that such a proposal was being seriously entertained, Senator Bacon offered to add an additional fifty acres to his gift and suggested that Council appropriate $3,500 and that the approximately 600 Macon Masons undertake to raise $10,000 for the project. When the Grand Lodge of Masons met in Macon on October 28, 1902, Senator Bacon again increased his offer to 100 acres and Macon Masons announced that $8,000 had already been subscribed. The offer was unanimously accepted, and Washington Dessau of Macon, to whom should go much of the credit for establishing the home in Macon, was named one of the trustees. On December 6th work on the home became a reality with the beginning of surveying operations on the property on the east side of the river. The cornerstone was laid with full ceremony during the next meeting of the Georgia Grand Lodge in Macon on October 27, 1903. This stone placed on the southeast corner of the home contained coins, relics, badges, programs, and valuable records of Macon and Georgia Masonic history.

As its contribution to this work, the county constructed a road from the Clinton Road to the location of the orphanage. On October 25, 1904, the completed Masonic Home was dedicated. The address of dedication was made by Grand Master Max Meyerhardt. Rev. A. S. Harris of LaFayette was named first superintendent of the home thereby automatically becoming chairman of the governing Board of Trustees of the institution. Operation of the home was begun on June 14, 1905, with the acceptance of twenty of forty applicants for admission, and the institution increased its activities yearly. An enlargement program for the Home was planned by the trustees in October, 1915, during Grand Lodge meeting, and about $40,000 was spent on it.

3. Enlarging Program of the Y.M.C.A.

The program of the Y.M.C.A. had begun before the turn of the century, and each year saw its expansion. Many citizens of Macon gave not only of their money but most generously of their time in almost yearly campaigns for funds. One such drive launched on November 24, 1909, to raise $40,000 was successful in so short a time that the goal was upped to $75,000, and final subscriptions amounted to

$75,134. L. P. Hillyer served as Citizens' Chairman of this drive, and W. E. Dunwody was Young Men's Chairman.

One year later on October 30, 1910, the Y.M.C.A. announced its intention of building a $75,000 new home. In spite of the fact that a much larger building program in Macon was in the making at the time with the prospect of a large new hotel, this group secured sufficient funds, and formal opening of the new building on the corner of First and Cherry Streets occurred on May 1, 1912, featuring an address by its president, George S. Jones. Almost at once, on June 3, 1912, another campaign was launched to raise $50,000 for a completion and furnishing fund. However, this campaign fell far short of its goal.

It would be impossible to single out any one most outstanding benefactor of the Y.M.C.A., but certainly the name of R. F. Burden in addition to those already mentioned should figure prominently, as did the men, in the affairs of the organization.

4. Development of a Similar Program for Women.

Very early in these years the Woman's Missionary Union set as one of its goals the building of a suitable dormitory for young working girls. The entrance of women into the business world was slowly being effected, but little provision had been made up to that time for their welfare. On November 20, 1905, the name Heimath Hall was chosen for the proposed building, Heimath being the German equivalent of "good cheer". A campaign for funds raised sufficient money to rent a brick house on the corner of Third and Walnut adjacent to Christ Church. Details of the opening were worked out by a committee headed by Mrs. Mary Waller including Mrs. E. J. Willingham, Mrs. W. H. Moxley, Mrs. Nat Lewis, and Mrs. Howell. Mrs. S. T. Coleman received applications, and Mrs. Herbert Brown donated part of the equipment of the building. On June 10, 1906, Heimath Hall was opened for the first time. The officers of the Missionary Union who made up the governing board of the home included Mrs. S. T. Coleman, president; Mrs. E. J. Willingham, vice-president; Mrs. J. O. A. Clark, secretary; and Mrs. T. D. Lewis, treasurer. By the end of six months of operation the home was caring for fifty-five girls and young women.

After a decade of service, the need of larger quarters began to be felt, and in 1916 a group of women headed by Mrs. E. B. Harrold formed a Heimath Hall Association to secure $30,000 for a new building. Falling slightly short of their goal, the group changed plans and bought the old Findlay home, also called the old Turpin home, on the corner of Second and Oak Streets for $19,000 in addition to property on Walnut Street acquired earlier for building but not used because of its inadequate size. The association spent an additional $8,000 remodeling and improving the house and building a gymnasium and a pool. The new Heimath Hall opened March 4, 1917. During the

war the name of the home was changed at the suggestion of Miss Ida Holt to Magnolia Hall. After the war when the work of the Y.W.C.A. began to expand, the governing board of Magnolia Hall dissolved itself and turned the home over to the Y.W.C.A. for operation under its program. Present plans call for destruction of the old building and erection of an entirely new plant on the same site.

5. The Playground Movement Begins.

A movement that was to bring great benefit to the youth of the city reached a climax on January 26, 1911, when the Macon Playground Association was formed. The organization meeting was held in the home of Harry Kendall and was in a large measure the idea of Miss Florence Bernd, one of the most influential of all Macon public school teachers. Officers of the association were Kyle T. Alfriend, president; Stephen Popper, vice-president; Miss Florence Bernd, secretary; and W. E. Harrold, treasurer. Other interested citizens who were present for the meeting included Mayor John T. Moore, Aldermen W. H. Fetner and Eli Elkan, James J. Cobb, Bridges Smith, Miss Rosa Taylor, and Miss Agnes Barden.

This move was co-ordinated with the National Playground Movement, and one of the first tasks of the group was the selection of Professor E. G. Kingsbury to be superintendent of playgrounds. He arrived in June, 1911, and began work at once with the Tattnall Square Association. Formal opening of Tattnall Square as a playground came on July 4th. Others followed in rather rapid order, and the opening of the Vineville playground on April 24, 1914, created the fourth city playground.

6. Formation of Organized Charities.

Always mindful of their obligation to the poor of Macon, a group of business men in July, 1901, through their agent, Samuel Anderson, began canvassing the city to secure members of an organization which they called Organized Charities. Each member was to give one dollar monthly and through the enlistment of 500 members adequate yearly funds to care for the poor of the city would be provided. In September when officers of the group were named, the membership had reached the hundred mark. E. W. Gould was elected president, and other officers were George R. Cherry, T. L. Massenburg, and S. F. Anderson.

7. Provision for Aged Dependents.

One additional institution that was designed to foster civic welfare had its beginning in this era. On June 19, 1905, the Vineville King's Daughters realized a long standing dream with the opening of a home for dependent old ladies. The home on Cleveland Avenue opened with two residents and the prospect for two more to come.

8. Library History During This Era.

As a New Year's Day present on the first day of the twentieth century, City Council received the following letter:

"To the Mayor and Council — Gentlemen:

The undersigned having the only direct interest in the S. B. Price Free Library — Mr. Carling, by reason of having erected and donated a building for the purpose and in divers other ways contributed to the maintenance, and Mr. Smith, by reason of having by his own efforts secured the valuable books contained in the Library — now that the law provides for an appropriation for the support of the library, and as the institution is free from debt, hereby desire to present, as a New Year offering, their sole interests in said library to the city of Macon, subject to a proper contract, and on the following conditions: That it will always remain under the fostering care of the mayor and council, that it shall forever bear the name of the S. B. Price Free Library; and that it shall always be conducted under the present rules now governing it.

Very respectfully,
T. J. Carling
Bridges Smith"

Through this letter the city became sole owner of a library which represented the dream of one citizen, the philanthropy of another, and the practical efforts of a third. The support referred to was a $600 yearly appropriation bill that had been passed by the Legislature in 1900.

When the city accepted the gift, Bridges Smith and other interested citizens began correspondence with Andrew Carnegie in an effort to enlarge the library's facilities. Six months later Carnegie offered a gift of $20,000 to the older Macon Public Library on the condition that the city give $2,000 annually for its support, but acceptance of this offer was delayed.

During the next years both libraries continued to operate through city support, and the securing of Carnegie funds was a periodically recurring idea. In 1907 when the national financial affairs were in a state of panic a move to consolidate the two libraries began. Such a move was always opposed by friends of Price as one library had been established as a memorial to him. So when Professor Kyle T. Alfriend in 1911 after correspondence with Carnegie reported that the city could secure a Carnegie grant of $50,000 for a building if the city would provide land and an annual $5,000 fund for support, again the offer was not accepted. Even those who did not oppose a merger of the two libraries objected to another provision of such a gift which stated that the title of such a building must always remain in the name of Carnegie.

The Carnegie grant idea rose once more in the history of the library movement. This time it came in early 1916 in conjunction with the offer to the city of a lot by Mrs. Ellen Washington Bellamy for the erection of a library. While an investigation of possibilities along the lines of a Carnegie library on the Washington lot were under way, the Macon Public Library suffered a great loss in April, 1916, through the death of Colonel W. A. Huff who had used his own funds to keep the library going and had served without pay as librarian since the death of the former librarian, Charles Herbst. This library was closed for two days but reopened by Miss Martha Sparks, the niece of Colonel Huff. Then on May 16, 1916, the Board of Directors named Grant P. Fuller librarian with Miss Sparks to be his assistant.

After Christmas in 1916 Mrs. Bellamy, learning that a Carnegie grant would mean giving the library the Carnegie name and intending the library to be a memorial to her brother Hugh Vernon Washington, announced that she would give $50,000 cash in addition to the previously donated lot. She appointed as a board of trustees to control the planning and building of the library Dr. Charles R. Jenkins, L. P. Hillyer, Eugene Anderson, Bridges Smith, Harry Stillwell Edwards, Mrs. W. P. Coleman, and Mrs. McEwen Johnston, each of whom was to serve for life, and as ex-officio member she named the mayor of Macon. At the first meeting of this board on January 1, 1917, Bridges Smith was elected president; Eugene Anderson, secretary; and L. P. Hillyer, treasurer. On January 2nd City Council passed a resolution expressing appreciation for the gift and accepting it with the condition that should any mayor and council fail to make an annual appropriation for its support, the property with such improvements as had been made should revert to Wesleyan College to be used exclusively in the teaching of fine arts.

The Board of Trustees of the library immediately set to work to determine general plans and decided on a white marble building built along generally classic lines with a ground floor housing certain specially designated separate rooms entered from the side and an upper floor reached by the main entrance given over to the central reading room. In February, 1917, the firm of Nisbet and Dunwody was selected as architects with Ten Eyck Brown of Atlanta as assistant architect. Plans went forward rapidly, and, in spite of the almost immediate declaration of war upon Germany, work was begun on the lot.

In commenting editorially on Mrs. Bellamy's gift the newspaper called it "a magnificent and highly patriotic thing to do."[2]

2. Macon Telegraph—Issue December 30, 1916.

II. Industrial Expansion

A—The Building Program

1. For Business Purposes.

To make a complete survey of the buildings erected during this period would be a herculean if not an impossible task. So only those marked for unusual size will be considered.

In July, 1902, Mrs. L. L. Dempsey announced plans for the construction of a new Commercial and Savings Bank Building at the apex of the triangular block between Second Street and Cotton Avenue at their intersection with Mulberry. It was during the year 1904 that work was also completed on the new $25,000 Southern Bell Telephone Exchange at the intersection of Second and Poplar. After almost half a century both the last buildings described are still in use, the latter for the purpose originally designed.

Before the completion of either of the first named buildings, plans were under way for the remodeling of the Academy of Music on Mulberry Street. As plans began to materialize it was decided in early 1904 that the old building should be torn down and a new one with a seating capacity of 2,000 was to be built at a cost of $40,000. In April a new name, the Grand, was selected for the building. Still later the builders decided to make this a five story office building. Upon its completion in late January, 1906, the Grand had a total seating capacity of 2,440—of this the ground floor seated 782, the balcony 568, and the gallery 1,050. The main entrance on Mulberry Street had dimensions of twenty-one by fifty-four feet while the stage was eighty feet wide and sixty feet deep. Formal dedication of the Grand occurred on February 1, 1906, and featured a speech of presentation of the Grand to the people of Macon by T. C. Matthews of the *Telegraph* on behalf of the owners, acceptance on the part of the people by Minter Wimberly, a brief sketch of playhouse history in Macon by Mayor Bridges Smith, and formal dedication of the theater to Thespis by John T. Boifeuillet, editor of the *News*. Then for the first time the curtain rose on the stage play "Glittering Gloria".

The boom in building continued and the composite building figure for the year 1905 hit one million dollars, a record which had never been equalled in the city's history. Nor was there a drop-off. On October 16, 1908, sale of the Lanier Hotel to Etheridge, Foor and Company was announced. Built in 1853, it had since 1897 been under the management of J. A. Newcomb. N. J. Etheridge, C. C. Foor, and J. H. Waterman made up the purchasing company, and during 1909 two floors were added to the hotel, which continued under this company till December, 1913, when it was sold to T. W. Hooks.

In 1910 civic-minded Maconites learned with delight of the pro-

posed construction of a building which for the city at that time had all the aspects of a skyscraper. It was to be called the Georgia Life Building to be erected by the Georgia Life Insurance Company on the site of the old Masonic Building on Third Street at a planned cost of $225,000. Work on the ten story structure began in late July, 1910.

It was during the year of 1910 that plans for a large new hotel on Cherry Street began to crystallize. At first the proposed site was the southwest corner of Mulberry and Third Streets, the building to extend to the alley beside the present Telegraph Building. The six story, half million dollar hotel was to be the undertaking of Henry Horne and his interests, but he could not buy one section of the proposed area so he gave up the idea. His sister, Miss Amelia Horne, sold the Telegraph a lot on the corner of the alley, and the newspaper moved into a completely new building in 1911, holding an "open house" for about 10,000 visitors on August 13, 1911. (This move was necessitated by a fire which on the night of November 3, 1910, completely destroyed the newspaper's plant on the corner of Second and Cherry with a $100,000 loss and the death of a typesetter, C. R. Clay who was believed to have been trapped in the building while asleep from exhaustion).

The next step in the move to get this hotel built was taken by a syndicate headed by the Continental Trust Company of Macon which formed a company and began to sell stock in order to erect a hotel on the Dempsey corner. While this was being done C. B. Willingham came forward in January, 1911, with plans for a three story sixty room hotel to be erected on the corner of Mulberry and Broadway and to be operated by Louis J. Dinkler. Work on this proceeded on schedule and under the name of "Hotel Dinkler", this company opened for business on July 10, 1911.

Meanwhile in March the syndicate already mentioned withdrew from the enterprise leaving all their information and plans in the hands of a previously appointed committee from the Chamber of Commerce which was to raise subscriptions amounting to $200,000. On this committee were J. A. Flournoy, W. E. Dunwody, R. L. McKenney, Morris Harris, A. J. Long, and Chairman R. F. Burden. By April 7th their drive was completed, and a twelve man committee of stockholders including R. F. Burden, Walter Dannenberg, R. J. Taylor, C. B. Lewis, W. E. Dunwody, N. M. Block, Leon S. Dure, R. L. McKenney, T. C. Parker, B. T. Adams, A. R. Willingham and J. A. Flournoy was named to make application to the Bibb Superior Court for a charter. The company first bore the name of the Midland City Hotel, and in late October its board of directors authorized a bond issue of $150,000 to supplement the subscriptions. Actual work began on the hotel on November 2, 1911. When the Dempsey Hotel Company organized formally on April 24, 1912, most of the twelve men who had applied for its charter were among its officers who were

R. J. Taylor, president; N. M. Block, vice-president; C. B. Lewis, secretary; W. R. Rogers, treasurer; W. J. Massee, Leon S. Dure, B. T. Adams, N. M. Block, W. M. Johnson, Dr. W. G. Lee, Walter Dannenberg, C. B. Lewis, and R. J. Taylor, directors; and Orville A. Park, attorney. Formal opening of the Dempsey on March 12, 1913 attracted between four and five thousand people and culminated in a banquet at night for 319 guests.

One more hotel came into existence during these same years. The Hotel Macon, a three story structure also at the corner of Mulberry and Broadway on the site of the old Williams Hotel, had been planned by Leon S. Dure, and by October, 1914, was almost ready for business.

One of the additional large buildings erected for business purposes during the period was the new Dannenberg store building designed by Frank R. Happ, on the corner of Third and Poplar, which was completed in 1906. Shortly after its opening Burden-Smith obtained a lease on the Shinholser Building on Third Street and after some remodeling moved its department store there from the burned out location on the corner of Cherry Street and Cotton Avenue. The department stores continued building activity when the Doody Company leased the building on the corner of Second and Cherry Streets in February, 1915, and after extensive remodeling moved there from its former location on Cherry which was at once taken over by Woolworth.

Other building developments included the million dollar Central Railroad shops started in 1907; a new theater on Cotton Avenue called Horne's Opera House and another called the Pastine at 529 Poplar Street, both of which were finished in 1910; a new four story building started at the corner of Broadway and Pine for Happ Brothers; and the Macon Bonded Warehouse begun by a company headed by Richard F. Willingham on the city reserve beyond the M. D. & S. shops in January, 1914. The new terminal station to be erected at the foot of Cherry Street at Fifth was boosting the value of property on lower Cherry, and in February of 1916 Joseph N. Neel paid $14,500 for a ten and one-fourth foot frontage beyond the Telegraph on Cherry Street. On July 1, 1917, the Union Dry Goods Company completed a large building on Cherry, the present Davison building, at a cost of $175,000. The company had purchased the site known as the Seisel property fifteen months before for $44,750.

2. For Residences.

Another important phase of the building program of the early nineteen hundreds centered around the building of large residential units or apartment houses. The first of these was planned by Willis B. Sparks in 1905 when he bought the old Academy for the Blind property on Orange Street for $50,000 with the idea of tearing down

the buildings and erecting a $70,000 apartment building to be known as the Lanier Place. Later a firm known as The Realty Company including Sparks, F. B. Stubbs, Leon S. Dure, and Dr. Thomas Baker undertook the building task and decided on Nevarro as a name for the unit. The original plans were finally carried out by a reorganized company called the North Highlands Land Company to whom the property was resold at the original figure.

The next of these units was the Ellisonian begun in 1907 by Curran R. Ellis. Then in 1908 a much larger building was planned, to be built on Coleman Hill. This site, once a trading place of Indians who made camp along the slope of the hill and later the location of the slave quarters of Joseph Bond whose home crowned the hill, had been considered an ideal spot for a tourist hotel, but this idea had changed into that of an apartment house in the mind of the owner of the lot Dr. E. Powell Frazier. Upon its completion it was named the Fredonia for Dr. Frazier's daughter of the same name.

One final similar building was that of the $100,000 Katherine Court on Mulberry Street begun by Eli Elkan in early 1914.

B—The Start of New Businesses.

Many present day business institutions had their origin in the period between 1901 and 1907. It was in July, 1902, that Jesse B. Hart bought the undertaking establishment of Arthur L. Wood and started a business under his own name which was to become one of the best known in Middle Georgia. Buckeye Cotton Oil Company began operation in a newly completed mill on September 1st of the same year. The Macon Fertilizer Company bought a hundred acres of land in East Macon near the Central Railroad tracks to build a new plant. The year 1907 saw the start of two large cotton concerns — Happ Brothers, chartered by Morris Happ, Lee M. Happ, Pinkus Happ and T. J. Carling with a capital stock of $20,000 to carry on a general merchandise business, and Willingham Manufacturing Company with a chartered capital stock of $40,000 backed by E. J., P. D., and B. B. Willingham. Also in 1907 the Macon Laundry Company built a $40,000 plant on Second Street between Poplar and Plum.

In June, 1909, John T. Moore interested a group of Macon men including Dr. T. N. Baker, Henry J. Lamar, Walter D. Lamar and others in the somewhat unique idea of setting up a plant which would make pulp for paper from okra stalks. A plant for paper manufacturing was set up at Gordon, Georgia, and after some experimenting a good grade of paper was produced. However, the cost of growing the okra made the project commercially prohibitive, although the Gordon plant operated on the usual type of pulp for some years longer.

Twice during these years definite attempts were made to capitalize on the huge kaolin deposits near the city. In 1905 a company from

Bowling Green, Kentucky, bought two hundred acres of land near Dry Branch and named Ben L. Jones to become director of the Macon branch of the company which planned to manufacture putty. Possibly the economic recession of 1907 ended this enterprise. Later in 1911 the Summit China Company of Akron, Ohio, through its superintendent J. H. Bierbach announced a plan to move its china factory to the Winship Place north of Macon where it could make use of local kaolin deposits which had several times been pronounced geologically very valuable. However, this plan did not materialize.

The last large business building enterprise during these years was the attempt to build a bonded warehouse for cotton in Macon. During 1910 a group of interested business men including R. J. Taylor, J. F. Heard, B. B. Ford, L. P. Hillyer and others had subscribed $50,000 toward such a warehouse. In August of that year cotton jumped to twenty cents, the highest price it had reached since the famine days of the War Between the States. This was the year when the boll weevil began to make serious inroads in Texas, and by 1911 it was evident that the insect was moving toward the state. The *Telegraph* started a movement called "The Macon Telegraph's Boll Weevil Campaign" which was designed to wake the people of the state to the seriousness of the boll weevil problem. Along with State Entomologist E. J. Worsham and State Commissioner of Agriculture Thomas G. Hudson, John R. Reeves, a reporter for the *Telegraph*, left on a trip through the states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama to study the cotton situation in preparation for the weevil invasion of Georgia. The news writer sent back stories to the local paper. Attending the Southern Cotton Congress in Montgomery the party reported the launching of a move on the part of that body to encourage the holding back of cotton for a price of fifteen cents as there had been a sharp drop in price resultant from the weevil scare.

So it was no great surprise when on September 20, 1911, a huge corporation was formed in Macon to control the selling of the cotton crop. Investors from New York, from Washington and from Macon backed the corporation which was divided into two parts, the Southern Cotton Corporation and the National Bank Audit Company. Macon was headquarters of the former company and George Dole Wadley was named its president. John T. Wadley of Waycross moved to Macon to become treasurer, and local directors included John T. Moore, Leon S. Dure, H. H. Hall, John McKay, and W. E. Dunwody. An additional twenty-five directors were chosen throughout the cotton states, and organization was made on both state and county scale. The general idea of the corporation was to estimate the cotton crop each year, to name a fair price for it, and to hold cotton in warehouses for that price. Then through the second corporation, the National Bank Audit Company, planters were to be issued seventy-five per cent of the price in bank-

able paper backed up by the chain of banks operated by this company. In the words of George Dole Wadley, it would "make Macon the big business and commercial center of the South" and was "staggering in its immensity and possibilities".[3]

Wadley was right in his statement about the scope of the projected deal. In August, 1912, at the request of a huge German firm of cotton manufacturers and bankers, Wadley sailed for Europe to investigate the possibility of securing $300,000,000 in German capital to back his corporation. W. T. Anderson, newspaperman, sailed with him, and they returned in early October with the assurance of financial arrangements, which would permit Wadley's firm to advance seventy-five per cent of the highest market price for cotton in cash to farmers with interest bearing scrip for the difference between that price and fifteen cents per pound.

No further mention of the company appears in newspaper accounts until March 10, 1914, when Wadley wrote of plans for a reorganization of the Southern States Cotton Corporation to get it out of court. So it is supposed that the firm ran into difficulties. By that time Europe was involved in war and the United States was feeling its effects, not only in a general unsteadiness of business operations but in a mounting uneasiness born of the realization of the inevitability of American intervention in the war.

In September, 1916, the boll weevil made its appearance in the Cross Keys section of the county, and farmers came at last face to face with the wisdom of a doctrine which had long been advocated by the *Telegraph,* that of crop diversification; and King Cotton tumbled from his throne as economic ruler of the Middle Georgia area.

One final pre-war business development began on a scale sufficiently large to be mentioned. This was the conversion of the half million dollar Acme Ice and Bottling Company into a million dollar meat packing plant. Alex Block who was president of the brewing company announced his plans in October, 1916, and the contract for the plant on Bay Street was let on March 23, 1917, less than a month before the declaration of war by the United States.

C—The History of Banking Institutions.

The first episode in banking history during the 1900's was the startling news of the double failure of I. C. Plant's Son Bank and of the First National Bank on May 16, 1904. Robert H. Plant was president of both. The death of Plant occurred shortly after the double failure. He was heavily insured in favor of his private bank, and funds from these policies plus the sale of his Idle Hour stock farm and stable of blooded race horses enabled large payment of dividends by both heavier dividends going to depositors in the First National Bank.

3. Telegraph—Issue September 21, 1911.

While these dividends were still being announced, a new bank to be called the Citizen's National Bank of Macon was organized in May, 1906, with a capital stock of $250,000. W. Minor Lewis was to be president, Charles Lewis was cashier, and S. R. Jaques was a large stockholder. First plans were to locate the bank in the Jaques Building, but later in 1907 Curran R. Ellis drew plans for a new bank at the corner of Cherry Street and Cotton Avenue.

The Exchange National Bank ran into difficulty on July 3, 1907, when a run on the bank was started. After weathering this first day and having a legal holiday the next day, the run continued, and on July 7th it was placed in the hands of receivers. The home of the Exchange National on the corner of Cherry and Third was sold to the recently organized Fourth National Bank in January, 1908.

Another bank organized during the same year was the Commercial National which opened on August 5th. This was not an entirely new organization but was closely associated with the older Commercial Savings Bank of which E. Y. Mallary was president.

The Merchants and Mechanics Savings Bank was chartered in late 1909 and opened in a building on the corner of Broadway and Elm Streets. It was intended largely for the South Macon area and was the idea of Eugene W. Stetson of the Citizen's National Bank. T. W. Hawkes was its cashier, and it operated for a number of years. Another small bank, primarily for the working man and the small depositor, opened in the Happ Building at the corner of Fourth and Pine Streets in early 1911 with Lee Happ as president.

In December, 1909, through a merger the Citizens' National took over the Central Georgia Bank which had been organized in 1869. Then during the next year the Continental Trust Company, a half million dollar firm, was formed with R. J. Taylor as president. Other officers were N. M. Block, vice-president, and W. R. Rogers, Jr., secretary-treasurer.

A more comprehensive banking establishment was the Central Trust Company which began to operate in the Georgia Life Building under a charter issued several years before to the Union Savings Bank and Trust Company by the Georgia legislature. Officers included J. J. Cobb, president; Leon S. Dure, W. E. Small, and Will Gunn, vice-presidents; G. S. Derry, secretary; and James M. Massee, treasurer. With nine departments covering every phase of banking activity this company opened on February 1, 1912.

Another bank with offices in the Georgia Life Building, the Macon National with Richard F. Lawton as president; Robert G. Jordan and Jesse B. Hart, vice-presidents; and Richard E. Findlay, cashier; was organized in September, 1912.

From this point the history of banking became a history of mergers. In August, 1914, the American National Bank absorbed the Com-

mercial National, and just one day later the Continental Trust Company took over the Commercial and Savings Bank. R. J. Taylor was president of both of the merged banks, but they continued to operate separately.

Two years later in 1916 the Fourth National under President Charles B. Lewis took over the Citizens' National. Lewis continued as president, and Eugene W. Stetson who had been president of the Citizens' National became chairman of the Board of Directors of the Fourth National. Less than one month later the Citizens and Southern Bank of Savannah bought controlling interest in the American National Bank. R. J. Taylor, president, and L. P. Hillyer, vice-president of the American National resigned, the former to devote his entire time to the Continental Trust Company of which he was also president, and the latter to organize a new bank. Mills B. Lane, president of a chain of banks owned by the Citizens and Southern of Savannah, became president of the new firm, George B. Clarke of Savannah came to Macon as vice-president, and E. C. Scott who had been cashier of the American National remained cashier. John B. Comer of Macon with Lane and Clarke of Savannah and E. T. Comer of Milhaven held most of the stock. In December of the same year stockholders of the old American National Bank voted to surrender their national charter and to begin operation under a state charter issued to the Citizens and Southern Bank of Macon.

A final merger during 1916 occurred on November 8th, when the Macon National, Macon's youngest bank, bought the oldest bank in operation, the Macon Savings Bank which had been organized in 1875. Jesse B. Hart continued as president.

III. Enlarging Program of Public Utilities

A—Extension and Further Development of Electric Power.

The use of electric power in Macon, of course, antedates the twentieth century. However, it was during the first three decades of this century that the facilities for the development of such power were so rapidly expanded and business combinations of power companies developed the all-controlling modern Georgia Power Company. In March, 1907, the Bibb Power Company was chartered with a capital of $100,000 to carry on a general electric and power business and to be related to a proposed network of interurban electric railways extending from Macon to various points in the state. Petitioners for the charter were W. J. Massee, John T. Moore, M. Felton Hatcher and M. H. Massee of Bibb County; John C. Walker of Macon County and W. A. Wimbish of Fulton County. The charter granted the privilege of increasing capital to $5,000,000, and it was the idea of the company with W. J. Massee as its head to develop water power on the

Flint, Oconee, and Ocmulgee rivers. This company later became the Central Georgia Power Company, and in March, 1908, under that name the firm received approval of the Georgia Railroad Commission to begin work on a dam located on the Ocmulgee six miles from Flovilla, eight miles from Jackson and ten miles from Monticello. According to plans W. J. Massee was president of the company; M. Felton Hatcher was secretary; Roland Ellis, assistant secretary; James L. Anderson, treasurer; Walter T. Johnson, general counsel; and Charles F. Howe, chief engineer. Actual construction work on the dam began May 4, 1908.

The use of electric power within the city was extended during 1910 with the development of the "Great White Way" on Cherry Street. The street was illuminated for the first time on Labor Day, September 5, 1910, when Miss Blanche Neel pressed the button that turned on the lights, and by January, 1912, the White Way extension to the cross streets on Cherry was completed through the Broadway block between Cherry and Mulberry Streets.

Financing of the dam building by the Central Georgia Power Company had been backed by the A. B. Leach Company of New York so it was no great surprise to the city when the Central Georgia Power Company was taken over in November, 1911, by the Georgia Light, Power, and Railways of Atlanta which, too, had the backing of the Leach Company. Also included in the deal, which was in reality a consolidation move that would permit larger operation was the purchase of the franchise granted a month earlier to W. J. Massee, T. F. Wickham and Walter T. Johnson in the name of the Central Georgia Gas Company and of the Macon Railway and Light Company whose operation is discussed more fully under the head of transportation. The now enlarged Georgia Railway and Power Company of Atlanta applied in February, 1912, for a franchise to operate in Macon, asking to be put on the same competing basis as the old Central Georgia Power Company. As proof of their good faith to supply the city with power they paid the city $10,000.

Meanwhile Massee had withdrawn from this corporation and had become associated with the Georgia Public Service Corporation which announced its plans to build a new steam plant that would deliver power to the city not later than October 1st, 1912, that would not be subject to the interruptions from weather as the Central Georgia Company's service had been. Work on the steam plant progressed steadily, so in February, 1913, the Atlanta company asked for a revocation of the franchise granted it seven months earlier and a return of their $10,000 deposit as they claimed that the contract for lighting the city was to be relet before they could get a company ready to supply steam power and also because Massee's company had already erected a plant. The city voted, however, to retain the $10,000, and the contract for

city lighting went to the Georgia Public Service Corporation.

The power war, if such it can be called, ended in October, 1913, when Massee sold his plant to Trimble and Company of Chicago who had a close tie with the Leach Company of New York. There was talk on the part of the city of enjoining the sale. City Attorney Andrew Lane ruled that such a move was too late, but that the city could demand independent operation of the company.

B—The City Takes Over the Waterworks.

When the twentieth century dawned in Macon, there was at least one public well still in use inside the corporate city limits, and there was great opposition to its closing. The Board of Health ordered that the well on Oak Street be closed, and many neighborhood residents at once entered a protest. However, the city began the filling up of the well so quickly there was no time to stop it. Then the residents forced the cleaning out and reopening of the well, but the state chemist declared a sample of the well water to be filthy. So in spite of vigorous claims that the sample sent the state chemist had been taken before the cleaning and cementing had been completed, the well was again closed, this time permanently.

One of the arguments of the well proponents was that the water was purer and cleaner than water supplied by the waterworks; and there were frequent complaints about water service. Municipal ownership of the waterworks was no new idea. The move dated back to 1857 when the Macon Gas Company had mains leading from springs on Magnolia Street that supplied 250 consumers. The city had appointed a committee to investigate the building of a plant which would pump water from the river to a reservoir to be located on the hill back of the O'Neal residence on Bond Street and from that point would be distributed by gravity to consumers. The reports of a civil engineer named Schwaub had announced $52,000 to $60,000 as a possible cost, had figured operating expenses at $15.50 per day, possible yearly receipts at $12,000, and about $7,000 as annual income. His report had been referred to "scientific engineers" and was not heard from again. Then the Legislature of 1900 had passed on act empowering the Mayor and Council to purchase the waterworks. But no definite step in that direction was taken until March, 1910, when in view of the approaching expiration of a contract with the Macon Gas Light and Water Company on February 1, 1912, Mayor John T. Moore appointed a committee of aldermen to negotiate with that company for the purchase of the waterworks. The committee composed of W. T. Anderson, Wm. H. Fetner, and Eli Elkan from Council and Oscar E. Dooly, Eugene W. Stetson, and Charles A. Caldwell were also to investigate two other possibilities—the erection of a new plant or the making of an improved contract.

A board of arbitration called in to determine a fair purchase price for the waterworks set $699,000 as their figure, and Mayor Moore in December, 1910, ordered an election to be held on March 18, 1911. In reality this vote was one for a $7,000,000 bond issue that would provide funds for the purchase, and the election carried with only eighteen opposing votes cast. Here again the Leach Company figured in Macon history when it was awarded the bond issue.

One provision of the bill of sale of the waterworks called for the election of a three man Board of Water Commissioners; and of the nine men running on September 20, 1911, W. H. Fetner, W. A. Huff, and C. T. Williamson were elected for terms of six, four, and two years, respectively. The commissioners held their first meeting at the Macon Public Library, on September 22nd. Fetner was named chairman and Huff vice-chairman. Formal transfer of the waterworks to the city was made on Saturday, September 30, 1911, in New York City.

The purchase of the waterworks proved to be a wise move as the profit for its first month's operation was more than $1,000, and for the second month profit was set at $4,312.39. Report of W. P. Bullock, consulting and construction engineer, in December, 1911, advised the provision of a new twenty inch supply pipe to the city, the laying of new mains in South Macon and in East Macon, the building of a new reservoir on Fort Hill, and certain other smaller improvements. Contract for the most of these improvements including the reservoir and the new mains was awarded early in 1912.

The Commissioners also petitioned to be allowed to remove the old water tower from Chickamauga Park at Orange and High Streets where it had been left as a fire precaution by Council in spite of many earlier requests for its removal.

Operation of the waterworks continued to be profitable, and on January 5, 1915, the Board of Water Commissioners announced the retirement of $14,000 in bonds ahead of schedule, $12,000 maturing January 1, 1916, and $2,000 maturing in 1920.

IV. Expanding Transportation Facilities

A—Improvement of Streets and Roads, and Bridges.

The years covered by this first period of the new century were a witness to a slow but steady increase in the number of miles of paved streets within the city. The part of Mulberry Street from Second to Spring Streets was paved in 1901. College Street from Georgia Avenue to Jones Street was paved with asphalt in 1902, and in 1905 Leon Dure became the proponent of a $75,000 bond issue for paving. In spite of the defeat of this issue due to the failure to obtain a majority of the registered voters, paving continued to go on in a smaller but steady way.

One street received a change of name in 1906 when upon the request of some of its residents the heavily settled portion of the Columbus Road was renamed Montpelier Avenue after the springs of that name.

The move toward extended paving went hand in hand with the advent of the automobile in the city and its increasing use. In February, 1901, a couple arrived in Macon with four autos called Locomobiles. They were propelled by steam and capable of thirty miles an hour speed. The couple offered free rides to all who were interested, and the newspaper reported that Granville Connor bought the first one, described as "a five-horse power buggy with a seat for two people" at a cost of $775 cash.

By late 1903 Council found it necessary to pass an ordinance as follows: "The speed of automobiles, locomobiles, etc., is limited to eight miles per hour." During the same year the Macon Automobile Association was formed with Dr. A. S. Moore, president; Dr. H. H. Johnson, vice-president; E. W. Burke, secretary; and Frank B. West, treasurer.

In January, 1909, Council voted to pave Poplar Street from Cotton Avenue to the First Baptist Church and Washington Avenue from that point as far as Wesleyan College. An unusual feature of this paving was the decision of Council to use brick made in the City's brickyard. A bond issue for sewers and paving carried in December, 1909, by a large majority, and Council approved many street paving projects, some of asphalt and some of brick.

Not only was Macon interested in the improvement of streets, but roads were drawing their share of attention too. In May, 1909, Macon was the center of a "Good Roads Movement". Delegates from Atlanta, Cordele, Perry, Ashburn, Albany, Douglas, Fitzgerald, Rochelle, Waycross, Tifton and many other points were welcomed to Macon by a committee of John T. Moore, chairman of the County Commissioners; W. H. Mansfield of the Road Commissioners; and John F. Heard of the Chamber of Commerce. Clark Howell of Atlanta was chosen unanimous chairman of the meeting and Emory Winship of Macon was named secretary. One object of this meeting was to lay out a suitable roadway from Atlanta to Jacksonville with Macon as a central stop. This was the beginning of the improvement of not only local but state roads as well, and it was natural that Macon should be vitally interested in the Dixie Highway in which the Atlanta to Jacksonville stretch became one important link. On October 17, 1915, Macon was host to a twenty-four member party of the Dixie Highway Association that was traveling from the North to Miami. W. T. Anderson, a local Dixie Highway commissioner, met the group in Atlanta and accompanied them to Macon. They were met at Lorane by a group of

citizens and upon arrival at the Dempsey Hotel the Macon Drum and Bugle Corps greeted them. They were entertained overnight.

By this time people had come to realize that the development of good roads was much larger than a local problem. The Central Georgia Automobile Club which was organized in late April, 1916, recognized this fact when almost immediately the members of the group passed a resolution calling on the Bibb legislators to work for the passage of a bill to create a highway commission that would develop and maintain public highways. This was one of the first of many such demands that did lead finally to the creation of such a commission.

B—History of City Transportation Lines.

Early in 1902 a merger of three local transportation lines was planned when the Macon Electric Light and Railway Company joined with the Consolidated and with the Metropolitan to form the Macon Railway and Light Company. T. J. Carling became president of the new company, J. H. Hertz was its secretary, and J. T. Nyhan was superintendent. However, the merger was not immediately successful because the Consolidated and the Metropolitan lines were under contract to Senator A. O. Bacon to buy a line which he proposed to build across the river that would connect with the Metropolitan (Bellevue) line.

Council had some difficulty in trying to decide whether or not it would allow the merger or uphold the claim of Senator Bacon. Finally it came to terms with the street railway companies allowing the merger in September, 1902, on terms that the company was to spend $150,000 at once for improvements which would exempt them from any payment of a portion of their earnings to the city for ten years. For the next ten years the city was slated to receive one per cent of the company's gross earnings, and for the following thirty years the city would receive two per cent. Senator Bacon had begun to build his line which was to operate across the Spring Street Bridge, and in December this line, the North and South Macon Street Railway Company, merged with the Macon Railway and Light Company.

In early 1903 this company was reorganized upon the resignation of its president, T. J. Carling; and E. L. Bemis of Richmond, Virginia, was elected in his place. Then in 1907 the company was sold by its out-of-town owners (from Nashville and from Savannah) to a syndicate of Macon men including W. J. Massee and John T. Moore. In the resultant reorganization Superintendent Nyhan and Secretary Hertz both resigned, and new officials were W. J. Massee, president; Jacob S. Collings, 1st vice-president; M. Felton Hatcher, 2nd vice-president; J. E. Jaudon, secretary-treasurer; J. W. MacFarland, superintendent; and Roland Ellis, general counsel.

A few months prior to this reorganization a group of the above

named Macon men including Massee and Hatcher with John T. Moore, M. H. Massee, J. N. Neel, and D. W. Hill of Macon with others from out of the city obtained a charter on April 6, 1907, to construct an interurban electric line under the name of the Macon, Americus and Albany Railway Company. Upon its formal organization on April, 23rd, John T. Moore was made 2nd vice-president, W. J. Massee became treasurer, and M. Felton Hatcher was chosen counsel. This dream of an interurban electric line never reached fulfillment although actual work on the road between some points was begun.

During the intervening years before the war, streetcar lines were extended out the Forsyth Road as far as the Idle Hour Club and out the South Macon car line as far as Rocky Creek Road to reach Rice Mill Park which was to be improved and developed.

C—Pre-War Railroad Developments.

By 1901 Macon could boast two highly successful railroad lines which had been in operation for some time. They were the Central of Georgia and the Southern. During 1901 the Macon, Dublin, and Savannah Railway began work on a line to Vidalia which would operate on Seaboard Airline tracks. Work on their shop at the foot of Walnut Street on the site of the old Macon and Covington depot began in July, and the first train from Savannah over this line arrived in Macon on August 17, 1901. The line was bought by the Seaboard in January, 1907, but continues operation under its original name.

City Council passed an ordinance in 1907 requiring the railroads to build what it called "a subway for vehicles" at the Bay Street crossing. It was to be about 700 feet long 25 feet wide including a 5 foot sidewalk on the east side, and to be paved, drained, and electrically lighted.

In connection with its million dollar shop building program the Central Railroad petitioned Macon for the closing of Seventh Street between Hawthorne and Pine and the granting to them of the deed for a fifty foot encroachment on that street. Their petition was granted, and work on the shops began on January 15, 1909. The Southern Railroad, too, engaged in a million dollar enterprise of shop building and the laying of additional trackage during 1911.

But by far the biggest railroad enterprise of these years was the building of a new terminal station. As far back in the period as 1902 there were rumors of a new union depot, but no action followed. The idea recurred frequently, and finally on March 12, 1912, the Central announced its intention to build a $1,500,000 depot on the site of the old station on Fourth Street between Poplar and Plum, but again no steps were taken. So on October 29th Mayor John T. Moore and A. J. Long, who was chairman of a newly formed terminal station committee of the Chamber of Commerce, issued an invitation to the

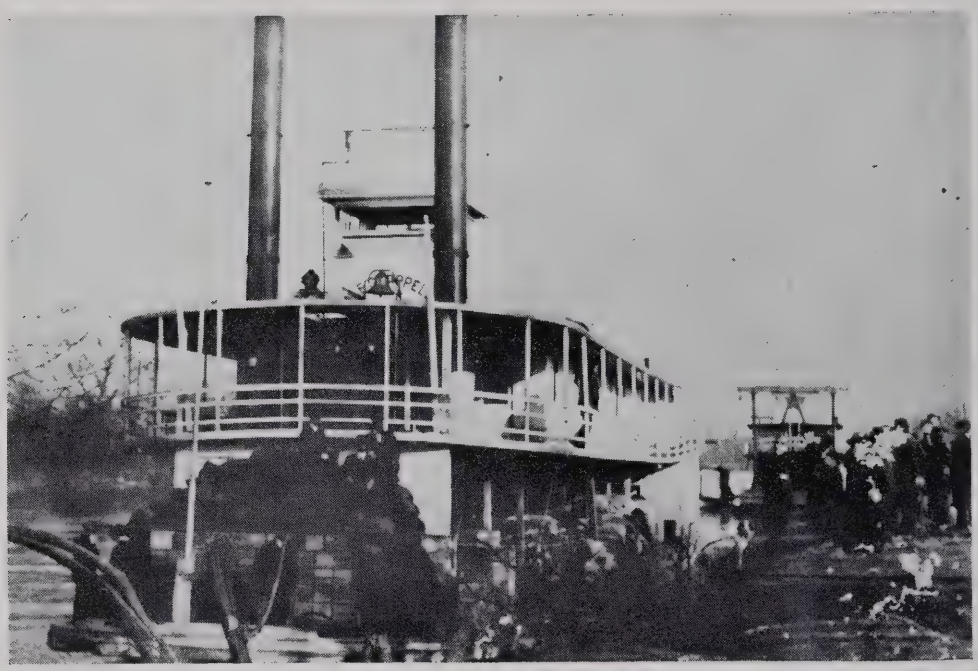
officers of all railroads then entering Macon to attend a meeting to discuss the erection of a new station. It was the dream of everyone to make this an adequate building as the old one which had been erected in 1848 was entirely inadequate. Even this, however, did not produce concrete results, and credit for action in the matter should go to Colonel R. L. Berner who made, in late 1912, a direct complaint of poor service to the Georgia Railroad Commission. This body ordered the Central and the Southern to make a formal answer to Berner's complaint by January 23, 1913. On this date the Southern reported that it was working with the Central on plans for a joint station but had been unable to pin the Central down to definite plans and figures so they wanted more time. However, the Central filed plans for its proposed station with the Chamber of Commerce on February 5, 1913. It called for a building on Cherry between Fifth and Sixth Streets if the city would permit the closing of the street and would assume the cost of property damage to businesses located on Cherry below the site. Council disapproved this move at once, and for a time it appeared that the Commission would require each line to build separately, the Southern on Ocmulgee between Second and Fourth Streets on property that it already owned, and the Central possibly at the foot of Mulberry. However, after a visit in late March from Murphy Candler, Chairman of the Railroad Commission, the Central was ordered to submit plans for its building on Plum between Broadway and Fifth Streets. This decision was altered in May when an agreement was finally reached between the Central and the Southern by which the Central was to build its depot convenient to Southern facilities and the Southern would occupy it as a tenant. With this proposal before it the Railroad Commission made the following statement: "The commission earnestly believes that all things considered, the union station should be built at the Cherry Street site, and that the details as to the closing or keeping open of streets in connection with this location, should be the subject of fair and co-operative negotiation by the city and the railroads and an early report of agreement or disagreement made to the railroad."

Affairs soon reached another stalemate when all merchants on Cherry below Fifth Street except one agreed to submit property damage claims to arbitration. The Central argued that it couldn't build on the old site; and the Railroad Commission refused, in the face of the city's lack of cooperation, to force it. Finally in spite of opposition a bill providing for the depot's erection and for the closing of Cherry at the site passed both houses of the Legislature in August, 1913. Plans for the building drawn by architect Fellheimer finally reached Council a year later. They called for the station proper to be 245 feet wide and 84 feet long. Following the granting of title to the needed land by Council (with a clause "For railroad purposes only") the

Macon Terminal Company was formally organized by the Central, the Southern, and the Georgia Southern and Florida railways in February, 1915. The Central turned over to this company all its properties on the site of the new station for $450,000, and this railroad began work on the construction of a viaduct at Plum from Fifth to Sixth Streets which was a necessary move. Actual clearing of ground for the depot began on September 30, 1915, and the contract was let on November 5th to J. Henry Miller of Baltimore for the round figure of a million dollars. Work of construction was completed by October 1, 1916, but no trains used the station for more than two months due to the failure of settlement of litigation pending since 1915 instigated by property owners who protested the closing of Pine Street as a surface street below Broadway where an underpass had been erected. Finally T. J. Simmons and Curran R. Ellis representing the property owners; T. J. Carling, neutral; and W. K. Young representing the railroad achieved a satisfactory settlement in November, and the first train entered the new station on December 1, 1916. This was train Number 8 from Albany which arrived at 9:35 A.M. On hand to witness its arrival was the Railroad Commission composed of Chairman Murphy Candler, Judge George Hillyer of Atlanta, Paul B. Trammell of Dalton, and John T. Boifeuillet of Macon. The handsome all white building with a 520 foot frontage on Fifth Street drew the unanimous approval of all the thousands of people who inspected it and stands today as a memorial to President W. A. Winburn who in his capacity as president of the Central and as first president of the Macon Terminal Company gave Macon one of the finest railroad stations in the South.

D—The Dream of River Travel.

The increasing importance of rail transportation and the coming of automobile travel, important as they were, failed to kill the dream in the minds of many Macon people of a revival of river transportation for the city. A government snagboat, the "Satilla" was in the river in 1902 pulling snags to clear the way for river travel. As a sort of test move to prove the still existent navigability of the river, the steamship "Oconee" left Macon on February 4, 1904, for Hawkinsville and although the trip was completed, the boat ran into difficulty at Bullard's Landing which necessitated a delay. On June 29, 1906, a freight steamer called the "Nan Eliza" began the first of what were supposed to become regular trips to Brunswick, the plans calling for two round trips each week. In 1907 Congress voted an appropriation for the improvement of the Ocmulgee channel between Macon and Hawkinsville and dredging operations began in June. The voyages of the "Nan Eliza" had proved the need of such improvement, and in December of the same year the United States Engineering Department was operating both the "Oconee" which was a stump puller and the



Steamer A. E. Chappell—First Trip from Brunswick—Macon Wharf
Courtesy Mr. E. R. Dozier

"Skidaway" which pulled snags in shallow water, As a result of this improvement, the "A. E. Chappell", a steamer owned by the Macon and Brunswick Navigation Company, took off on February 15, 1908, on its maiden trip, and while the trip was not without mishap, it was considered favorable enough to warrant construction of a second boat, the "Emmett Small" which was completed in April. However, there was a lapse of almost two years without boat travel until the "A. E. Chappell" left on August 15, 1911, for the first river trip since 1909. This was the beginning of a move that resulted in the creation of the Altamaha, Ocmulgee, and Oconee River Improvement Association in September, 1912, with A. J. Long as its president, one of its first endeavors being the urging of a larger Congressional appropriation for the river system. An entirely local body called the Macon-Atlantic Navigation Company was organized in May, 1914, after six months of intensive campaigning for stock to secure $80,000 in order to get $20,000 which had been conditionally pledged by Emory Winship. Instrumental in the success of this drive were General Chairman W. T. Anderson and his co-workers R. L. McKenney, J. A. Flournay, L. P. Hillyer, Jesse B. Hart, Albert Bach, and C. B. Lewis. Again in 1914 Congress made an appropriation, of $40,000 this time, for improvement, and on May 21, 1915, the "Ocmulgee", first barge boat of the Macon Navigation Company was launched at the foot of Seventh

Street before a crowd of 1,000. It was a 120 foot all steel craft. When it left for its initial trip on July 20th, loaded with raw cotton and cotton and linen products, it ran into some difficulty which proved that the government needed to spend much more money to improve the river. On its return the "Ocmulgee" was tied up for about two weeks at Lumber City by the lowest water level in twenty years. In the face of these discouragements the company authorized the building of a second barge, and barge trips continued. In December of that year the company decided to carry future barges to Savannah instead of to Brunswick. The trip would be sixty miles longer, but Brunswick had been uncooperative in the securing of dockage there because of a tie-up between the railroads and the steamship lines operating to Brunswick, and for the first time in forty-five years a cargo laden boat from Macon arrived in Savannah on January 26, 1916, where it was warmly received.

When Congress convened after Christmas in 1916 a party of fourteen business men from Macon went to Washington to ask for an improvement appropriation of $155,000. Making the trip were A. J. Long, C. O. Stone, J. E. Yates, John S. Schofield, Judge C. L. Bartlett, A. W. Smith, Walter Defore, Willis B. Sparks, and representatives of several banks. In spite of their pleas the committee on rivers and harbors recommended only $53,000, but in view of the approaching war and the increasing importance of a preparedness program, even that grant was remarkable. In late November, 1916, the final pre-war step in the river travel movement was made with the formation of the Altamaha River Association, naming Judge C. L. Bartlett as president and a vice-president from each of the towns represented—Milledgeville, Savannah, Brunswick, Dublin, and Macon. T. D. Tinsley was Macon's vice-president. It was the aim of this group to press Congress for a larger appropriation, but the war, which had threatened for so long, finally came, blotting out all hope even, for a while at least, all ambition, for such a grant. So the sporadic efforts to capitalize on this natural resource met with little success.

Although it has no direct bearing on the problem of river travel, it is well here to consider briefly two other problems that concern themselves primarily with the river. They are bridges and the development of a levee system.

In early 1902 a heavily flooded river washed so much dirt from under the corner of the Spring Street bridge nearest Baconsfield that the bridge had to be closed. Since this was a county bridge, the Commissioners voted to repair the damage. The bridge remained closed from March 2nd until about the middle of August. To prevent a recurrence of this and to protect property along the river bank, the Ocmulgee Levee Company with city help began in 1906 to build a mammoth levee. The embankment rose at the Napier

and Loggerback sluices, leaving them dry channels and extended beyond the Central City Park levee to the embankment of the Macon, Dublin, and Savannah tracks. Several times in the years that followed high water broke through the levee as, for example, it did in April, 1913, but each time it was rebuilt and strengthened. Finally in January, 1913, the county paid the city $6,000 to take over Spring Street bridge.

V. Political Activity

A—Local Politics.

The officials who shaped civic policies during these years changed surprisingly infrequently. Only three men served as mayor during this seventeen year period. Bridges Smith served two long terms, from 1901 through 1907 and again from 1914 through 1917. Judge A. L. Miller succeeded Mayor Smith in 1908 and served that year and during 1909. Then John T. Moore served from 1910 through 1913. A chart of the mayors who served from 1901 through 1929 with the aldermanic slate of each is located at the end of this chapter.

Several important movements were features of these years. In July, 1905, the "Young Men's Democratic Club of Macon" was born. Walter A. Harris presided over the organization meeting, and Augustin Daly was acting secretary. A five man committee chosen to draft by-laws for the club included Harris as chairman; W. A. McKenna, Leon S. Dure, W. D. McNeil, and Ellsworth Hall. The purpose of the organization was to champion governmental measures rather than candidates.

The next important political move had its origin in a bill introduced in the Legislature in 1905 by Representative Felder of Bibb County providing for the establishment of a state reformatory for juvenile offenders. Macon supported this move by a resolution passed at a public meeting on May 15, 1905, over which Nat E. Harris presided as chairman and Claud Estes was named secretary. The enlarged bill pending in April, 1907, and providing in part for the appointment of at least one probation officer in each county and putting offenders under sixteen years of age under the jurisdiction of the Ordinary's Court was the inspiration for a public meeting in Macon on April 2, 1907, that resulted in the formation of the "Juvenile Protectory Association of Bibb County". Bridges Smith was elected president of this body Charles H. Hall became vice-president, Claud Estes was named secretary, and R. F. Burden was treasurer. The group voted to work for improved treatment of juveniles and to urge the representatives from Bibb County to work for passage of the bill. It was not, though, until September 1, 1915, that the first county probation officer was appointed by Judge H. A. Mathews of Bibb Superior Court. J. L. Lawton was named to take care of juvenile offenders who came before the court.

An interesting development of this movement which began in 1906 was a meeting of 200 negroes from all over the state who gathered at a spot in the neighborhood of Swift Creek to inspect some property which had been bought by the colored First Baptist Church of Macon two years before as a reformatory for negro youths. Now that the entire purchase debt had been paid off, this meeting was an effort to set in motion a drive for funds to develop the original plan. Later the project was undertaken by the colored federated women's clubs who offered the property to the state for the establishment of the desired reformatory. Briefly to complete this particular move, the state refused the offer until a suitable building had been erected so the clubs deeded the property to the county. When the county obtained Federal funds, the negro women matched them and the building was finally completed. The state accepted the property in 1938 but failed to make appropriation for its operation. So, much to the disappointment of the backers, the building remained idle. However, at the beginning of the Arnall administration the appropriation was made, and the property off Riggins Mill Road is now in use as the colored division of the state training school for girls.

Another attempt to change the judicial set-up in Macon originated in 1909 with a bill (introduced by Bibb's Representative Joe Hill Hall) to amend the city's charter. It was a surprise move to curtail the powers of the City Recorder and created much opposition led by the mayor himself. After protestations were made, the bill passed in an altered and not objectionable form setting a limit of $300 on fines that could be assessed by the recorder and forty days on the chain-gang or sixty days in jail as the limit on sentences that he could impose. The objection had been based largely on the theory that such a limitation of power would be a hoodwinking at legal control of liquor dealing. Later in 1913, a Municipal Court was created by the legislature which abolished justice of peace courts, and Augustin Daly was elected first judge of this court.

A third movement of great political importance on a local scale was the establishment of a Civil Service Commission to control the police and fire departments of the city. In the very first year of the new century complaints were made of wholesale dismissal of fire department members without charges of incompetency by the changing administration. It was much later, however, in 1911 when the move toward a Civil Service Commission took definite form when permission for its establishment became a part of an amendment to the city charter passed by the Legislature. After studying the use of such systems in other cities, Council passed an ordinance adopting a system to fit local needs that was put into effect on December 17, 1913. In September, 1914, Captain R. C. Hazlehurst, Curran R. Ellis, and Frank B. West became the first three men elected to the Civil Service Commission

for terms of six, four, and two years in proportion to the number of votes polled. The set of rules which they drew up and presented to Council was adopted on November 18, 1914. The Commission was not an entirely popular body, and before the first year of its existence ended, a resolution to abolish it had been made and voted down in Council. Again in February, 1916, a move to abolish the commission was made, and two weeks later Council passed it with only one dissenting vote; but when the bill to rescind the act of creation came before the Legislature it did not pass. So the Commission continued to act on all jurisdictional matters pertaining to the police and fire departments.

The creation of one final governing board during this period was a source of controversy from start to finish. The controversy began very early in the period over the use of Poplar Street parks as parking lots for wagons in contradiction to the maintenance of those on Third and Mulberry Streets as parks. Park arguments continued to be an almost weekly feature of Council meetings, and the idea of a Park Commission gained favorable support in Council which in June, 1910, passed an ordinance setting up such a commission to be made up of four appointed citizens and the Mayor as an ex-officio member. The creation of this body had to be passed on by the Legislature, and the features of it calling for empowering the proposed commission to appoint a superintendent and other employees and to fix their pay and calling on the city for an annual appropriation of $10,000 for park work drew the disapproval of Bibb County's Joe Hill Hall who led a move in the Legislature that brought about its defeat. Again in 1912 a three man paid commission was suggested, but it was not until September, 1914 that such a commission came into existence in a greatly modified form under provisions of a new city charter adopted by the preceding Legislature. This Commission was made up of one man and one woman from each of the wards, and Mayor Bridges Smith appointed E. H. Hyman and Mrs. Ella Wasner from the First Ward, L. C. Ricks and Miss Willie Hall from the Second Ward, John T. Moore and Mrs. E. W. Bellamy from the Third Ward, and W. A. Taylor and Miss Rosa Taylor from the Fourth Ward to serve on the first Park and Tree Commission. John T. Moore was chosen chairman of the group, and one of its first acts was the selection of a parks keeper.

In December, 1914, the commission completed the work of naming the twenty city parks located within the corporate limits. The names honored individuals except in the following cases—Tattnall Square Park, Chickamauga Park, Library Park (that one occupied by Price Free Library), and Cowles or Bond Hill which is known now as Coleman Hill. Small cast iron signs bearing the names were placed in each park.

As a general economy move, Council in early 1908, created a new

city office, that of Purchasing Agent and City Auditor, and Charles E. Campbell was the first person elected by Council to this office.

A final act of City Council must be added to this record. On March 26, 1912, this body voted their approval of a new city seal which is described in the minutes of the Council as "a round seal containing a modern commercial building at the foot of which is a cabin designed to illustrate the architecture of the early days of the city and the present time, surrounded by the inscription: The City of Macon, Georgia, 1823". The design as executed contained replicas of the first house built in Macon in 1823 and of the newly completed Georgia Life Insurance Company's building (now called Persons Building).

B—Participation in State Politics.

Macon has always showed a keen interest in the election of state governors, but the city had a special interest in the election of 1902 because DuPont Guerry of Macon was a gubernatorial candidate. There were charges and counter-charges coupled with warm support and just as warm opposition which resulted in Guerry's carrying the county by the narrow margin of 154 votes. Governor Terrell was elected to the state office, however, by a large margin. The next election which drew wide attention locally was the contest between Joseph M. Brown and Hoke Smith in 1910. Bibb was bitterly anti-Smith by a 975 majority, but Smith easily carried the state.

It was in 1914 that the race for governor drew the greatest local attention, though, for it was on April 30, 1914, that Judge Nat E. Harris of Macon announced his candidacy for the governorship at a mass meeting. He had earlier announced his intention to run at Jeffersonville while court was in session there. Judge Harris who was born near Jonesboro, Tennessee, on January 21, 1846, had become a resident of Macon in 1873. Here he formed a law partnership with Walter B. Hill which he maintained for twenty-seven years until Hill became chancellor of the University of Georgia. He had also served in both houses of the Georgia Legislature and so was well qualified for the office. In the election on August 19, 1914, Judge Harris received 192 unit votes, L. G. Hardman of Commerce received 148 unit votes, and J. Randolph Anderson of Savannah received 32. The popular vote for Harris was about 15,000 in excess of that of Hardman.

His was a stormy initiation into office. He was first governor from Macon since the election of Charles McDonald, and a large delegation of Macon people, accompanied by a battalion of the National Guard, was on hand for his inauguration on June 26, 1915. Governor Slaton, the retiring official, was particularly unpopular at this time because of his commutation of the death sentence imposed on Leo Frank to life imprisonment as his last official act. Frank who was a Jew had been convicted on charges of assaulting and murdering

a young pencil factory worker named Mary Phagan, and the case had stirred up nation-wide interest because of the racial issue involved and because of much bitter newspaper comment in Georgia. Resentful of such outside interference as the threat of boycott by the State of Massachusetts and resolutions from at least two state legislatures requesting that Frank's life be saved, those Georgians who were convinced of his guilt were incensed when Governor Slaton announced his decision. It is not the intention of this history to weigh either the guilt of the accused man or the intent of the Governor. His action was avowedly the result of his belief that the Frank case was his problem and as such should not be dumped into the lap of his successor. And, although Governor Harris did not concur in his decision, in writing of the incident he says, "He was told, I afterwards understood, that it would appear to the world as an act of cowardice if he failed to take up and decide the matter, as the whole case had originated in his term. Governor Slaton had no drop of blood in his body that was tinged with cowardice. That I found out, by unmistakable demonstration afterward."[4]

However, to return to the inaugural ceremonies, when the retiring and the incumbent officials appeared before the usual joint session of the Legislature, Slaton was thoroughly hissed and threatened. Then as the two men walked out of the Capitol an attempted assault with a large piece of iron pipe was aimed at the ex-Governor and would have hit both had it not been for the quick action to deflect the blow of Major Polhill Wheeler who was in command of the National Guard unit from Macon.

Later Governor Harris was petitioned to withdraw the militia guarding Slaton's home which he refused to do. There was an encounter between a mob and the militia which ended, without the firing of a shot, in the imprisonment of twenty-seven men and the capture of a wide assortment of weapons. At first Slaton refused to believe the real bitterness of the feeling against him and to take the advice of Governor Harris to leave Atlanta. Several days later he decided to travel through the West for a time. As a sequel to the story Frank was attacked by a fellow prisoner at Milledgeville about a month later and had his throat cut badly. Two Macon doctors, Dr. W. A. Little and Dr. Harry Moses, called to assist in treating the wound, arrived just as the work was completed and the man's life was saved, but only temporarily. On the night of August 16, 1915, Frank was taken from the prison by a mob of twenty-five men and lynched near Marietta. It is believed by some that at least a part of the lynching party passed through Macon.

Governor Harris instituted an investigation and offered a $2,500 reward for the discovery and punishment of the lynchers, but not a bill was returned. In the Governor's own words, "So many persons

4. Autobiography of N. E. Harris—Nathaniel E. Harris, Page 352.

believed the lynching just, that they looked on the investigation as merely perfunctory and treated it as a farce."[5]

One other big issue arising during the Harris administration was that of prohibition, and when the Legislature adjourned their regular session in 1915 without action on the question, Governor Harris taking a determined stand in the matter made it one of the subjects of call for a special session, and after much bitter debate the bill finally passed. Although it was in a large measure ineffective because of a clause that permitted any individual to order a stated quantity of wine, beer or whisky from out of state once each month, it did succeed in doing two things. First, it closed the open saloons, and second, it brought to the Governor a measure of unpopularity that resulted in his defeat at the next election.

It is impossible to divorce from the subject of state political activity in those years the vigorous but unsuccessful attempt to have Georgia's capitol removed from Atlanta to Macon. The idea was no innovation; it had been a civic dream almost from the beginning of the city's existence. But it took permanent form again at a mass meeting of citizens held on December 5, 1910, at the City Hall Auditorium at which meeting the Central Capitol Removal Association was formed, and Emory Winship was elected permanent chairman. After Winship moved to California in February, 1911, W. E. Dunwody succeeded him. Local business men had pledged more than $100,000 by the time the move took permanent shape, and Tattnall Square had been offered as a possible capitol site. The idea gained strength when on August 5, 1911, the Capitol Removal Association entertained members of the Georgia State Legislature with a barbecue. The group of visitors was met at the train by autos, made a tour past Central City Park, neared Coleman Hill, and circled Tattnall Square. Wisely enough, F. F. Jones who was chairman of the committee on arrangements planned no addresses except a brief welcome by Mayor John T. Moore. Representative Joe Hill Hall in his capacity as master of ceremonies called on various guests for expressions of opinion. Such men as John M. Slaton, later destined for governor, John Holder, George Hillyer and Richard B. Russell favored submitting the idea to popular vote. At last on July 30, 1913, a capitol removal bill bearing 68 signatures representing each of the twelve districts except Atlanta was introduced into the House of Representatives. Section I of the bill read:

"Be it enacted by the general assembly that at the next general election to be held in this state that the question of the removal of the capitol from the city of Atlanta to the city of Macon shall be submitted to the qualified voters of this state voting at said election."[6]

Atlanta now began to look seriously upon the issue which before it

5. Ibid: Page 368.
6. Telegraph—Issue July 31, 1913.

had tended to treat as a joke, and by a series of circumventions prevented a vote on it. In 1916 a large delegation of business men went to Atlanta with the determination to force a vote on the bill, but it was pushed off by a bill to obtain a more satisfactory executive mansion which was introduced by Atlanta. Finally in spite of a vote by the legislative body not to table the bill, the Rules Committee of the House of Representatives removed it from the calendar on August 12th on the contention that debate on it would kill chance of action on too many bills that were pending, in time for their passage by the Senate. By the time the next session of the legislative body convened, the nation was at war and more important issues were at stake, so the removalists retired in a sort of silent truce although the dream was by no means dead.

C—Macon's Interest in National Affairs.

1. Assassination of President McKinley.

During the first year of the twentieth century, Macon was jolted out of its concentration on local affairs by the news of the shooting of President William McKinley by Leon Czolgosz, a self-styled anarchist, on September 6th. On that evening prayers for the President's recovery were offered in at least two Macon churches. He was the third of seven men elected President since 1860 to become the target of an assassin.

At a mass meeting on September 7, 1901, presided over by Bridges Smith with Eugene Anderson as secretary, the general sentiment was "Down with anarchy", especially when it became known that Czologsz who professed to be a disciple of the radical anarchist Emma Goldman had said, "Her doctrine that all rulers should be exterminated was what set me to thinking so that my head nearly whirled."

After several temporary rallies, McKinley died in the early morning of September 14, 1901, and Mayor Smith ordered fire bells and church bells to be tolled. In memorial services held at the Academy of Music on September 15th, Harry Stillwell Edwards paid oral tribute, J. O. Boone sang "One Sweetly Solemn Thought", and an address by Claud Estes followed. Again on the 19th during the hour of funeral Macon paid tribute with prayers in her churches, the tolling of bells, and the draping of public buildings. Her citizens followed with keen interest the course of the assassin's trial, his conviction and his execution on October 29th.

2. Presidential Visitors to Macon.

In June, 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt was sent an engraved invitation to visit Macon in October, 1902, during the National Farmers' Congress. The invitation was signed by Vice-President Harvie Jordan of the farmers' organization and by Mayor Bridges Smith,

Emory Speer, E. J. Willingham, E. A. Waxelbaum, and Harry Stillwell Edwards on behalf of the city. Although pleased with the invitation and planning a trip through Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi at about that time he would give no definite answer. His brief appearance in Macon came on October 21, 1905, when his train stopped in the city for about ten minutes. He had just paid a visit to Roswell and appeared at the fair in Atlanta. Met here by a crowd of about 2,000, Mr. Roosevelt made a short address and accepted a bouquet of flowers presented by A. L. Dasher, president of the Macon Chamber of Commerce.

The Fair Association of 1909 headed by Charles B. Lewis met with more success when they extended to President William Taft an invitation to visit the city during fair week. President Taft set November 4, 1909, as the date of his visit in his acceptance, and elaborate plans were made for his entertainment. The President's assistant secretary, L. C. Wheeler, came to Macon in advance to approve arrangements, and since he announced that the President preferred carriages, no automobiles appeared in the procession that met him. Arriving in Macon from Birmingham shortly after midnight President Taft and his party got into carriages on Fifth Street in the rear of the old depot at 7:30 and moved under escort of twelve mounted policemen up Poplar Street to Second and along Second through the Cotton Arch near the intersection of Second and Cherry to Mulberry. (This Cotton Arch suggested by A. F. Subers and personally designed by Richard F. Willingham was built of over 300 bales of cotton averaging 500 pounds in weight.) Then the party proceeded up Mulberry Street to Georgia Avenue, thence to College Street and along College to the Ash Street residence of Judge Charles L. Bartlett where the party was entertained at breakfast.

In the home of Judge Bartlett, a building now the property of Mercer University, a table built of Georgia cypress, elliptical in shape, measuring thirteen by nine and a half feet had been set for twenty-three guests. The table was decorated with more than a hundred pink roses, and on either side of it stood a negro girl with hair in pigtails holding a fly brush of peacock tails. The menu for the day read:

Big Dish of Birds

Country Sausage Ham and Eggs

Fried Chicken

Hominy with Red Ham Gravy

Hot Rolls Waffles Beaten Biscuit

Hoecake Buttercakes

Country Butter

Fried Sweet Potatoes More Fried Chicken

Coffee, Cream, Milk



Home of Judge C. L. Bartlett and Scene of Breakfast Honoring President Taft

Drinnon Photo by Ralph Jones

Macon guests on this occasion included Senator A. O. Bacon, Judge William H. Felton, Judge Robert Hodges, Mayor A. L. Miller, J. H. Heard, president of the Chamber of Commerce; C. R. Pendleton; Charles B. Lewis, president of the Fair Association; and R. L. McKenney. Ladies of Macon who assisted Mrs. Bartlett in welcoming Mr. Taft were Mrs. S. R. Jaques, Mrs. T. D. Tinsley, Mrs. H. M. Wortham, Mrs. Charles H. Hall, Jr., Mrs. L. O. Stevens, Mrs. C. D. Findlay, Mrs. R. E. Findlay, Mrs. David W. Hill, Miss Mattie Nutting, and Miss Claire Boifeuillet.

Adhering to a rigid time schedule the President and his party left the Bartlett residence at 9:00 A.M. to go to the Fair Grounds, driving by way of Bond Street and Coleman Hill to afford Mr. Taft a view of the city from that point. The crowd in the city on hand to see the President was estimated to be about 25,000, and many of them heard his address made from a platform at the State Fair Grounds. He was introduced to the crowd by Col. Nat Harris, and speaking somewhat from the standpoint of a man from a different political party, he said in part:

"We Americans have had long years of training to make us good losers and training in self restraint. Of course, the people of your section, accepting the will of the majority as the right and dominant, fight to maintain principles in which you believe, and while I may differ with you along these lines, in the matter of understanding these principles, after all I can forget the differences because of the genuine warmth of the reception you have given me."

Then in closing he added: "I want to give you the assurance that we are Americans altogether and that you have as much right to be heard from, to claim my attention, as people anywhere. It will gratify me to please the people of the south, and to bring the people of all sections together in the welding of a greater and more united country."

Immediately upon the conclusion of his speech, President Taft returned to his train and left Macon at 12:20 P.M.

Two interesting sidelights on his visit were the President's request for a souvenir gourd bearing his name in three inch letters raised by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Godley, exhibitors from Camden County, and a letter which he wrote to the children of the Appleton Church Orphanage on College Street who had saluted him as he passed on the way to Judge Bartlett's home. He had gotten down from his carriage to go to the fence to speak to the children that morning. His letter follows:

"My Dear Children:

I was delighted to see you yesterday morning in Macon, looking so pretty, so happy, and so patriotic.

Your friend,
William Howard Taft".

During the presidential campaign of 1912, Macon had a visit from Woodrow Wilson who was destined to become president and from Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt. In Macon on April 20th, Wilson spoke to the students of Mercer University, was entertained with a reception at Wesleyan College, and addressed a public meeting of about 2,000 people. Introduced by E. L. Martin, president of the Bibb County Wilson Club, Wilson spoke on the great unrest in the country and attributed it to the control of governmental policy by selfish interests. He scored machine politics, hit at trusts, and urged the people to unite with him in an effort to overthrow the control of money and big business. According to the *Telegraph*, there was "much more of the lecturer than the political orator in his style", but he was rather well received.

On September 28, 1912 Theodore Roosevelt appeared in Macon for slightly more than an hour in the interest of the Bull Moosers or Progressive Democrats who were bolters from the party. After an introduction by W. E. Dunwody he spoke to a crowd of about 2,000

from the portico of the City Hall and urged Maconites to look forward with his party.

In the course of the November election, Wilson carried Macon by 2,510 votes over Taft, the closest candidate who received 124 votes. When Wilson's election received confirmation on November 10th there was an impromptu celebration in Macon led by Curran Ellis followed by a "Wilson Day" parade and celebration on November 11th. This was the first time in many years that a Democrat was to sit in the White House, and Macon with the South was overjoyed. The city continued its celebration during the inaugural ceremonies of 1913 when the Macon Volunteers, the Macon Hussars, the Floyd Rifles, and the Macon Drum and Bugle Corps under First Lieutenant M. C. Balkcom, Jr., Captain W. Polhill Wheeler, First Lieutenant Robert G. Tayor, and Curran R. Ellis, respectively, went to Washington and occupied a prominent spot in the inaugural parade, thanks to Senator Bacon. J. Lane Mullally and Abe Abrahams accompanied the Drum and Bugle Corps as president and drum major.

When on November 6, 1913, Senator Robert M. LaFollette was in Macon to speak at Wesleyan on "Representative Government" he followed much the same line of attack on trusts as Wilson's. He also praised Senator Bacon saying that it was he who had much to do with shaping and directing the policy of President Wilson in the Mexican situation.

3. The Woman's Suffrage Movement Reaches Macon.

As the new century progressed a small political move progressed with it. This move was a demand for the extension of suffrage to women. In Macon it had reached a point in 1914 where it commanded enough attention to become the subject of a mass meeting held at the City Hall Auditorium on April 25th. Mrs. Wesley Martin Stoner of Washington, D. C., spoke in the interest of suffrage at the meeting presided over by Bridges Smith who presented to the audience Mrs. Cora E. Fuller, president of the Macon Woman's Suffrage Association.

By March 13, 1915, those women who opposed the extension of suffrage had organized, and on that date the Georgia Association Opposed to Woman's Suffrage held an open meeting at the Dempsey Hotel over which Miss Caroline Patterson, president, presided and heard a talk against the vote for women by Governor-Elect Harris.

During the month of May, 1916, announcement was made of a debate to be held at the Grand between Mrs. W. D. Lamar, an opponent of suffrage, and Mrs. E. B. Harrold, a proponent, on the subject: "Resolved, That woman suffrage is a menace to social reform." Proceeds were to go to the Heimath Hall building campaign. The debate was not held because of the illness of Mrs. Lamar, but she remained an active opponent and was elected to an office in the national association that fought woman's suffrage.

Suffrage became an issue of the meeting of the Georgia Federation of Woman's Clubs which met in Macon during October of 1916 with Mrs. Bruce Carr Jones, president of the Sixth District Federation of Clubs as hostess. However, this was another issue that waned temporarily in importance with the advent of the war.

VI. Educational Developments

A—In the Public Schools.

The early years of the 1900's brought their changes to the public school system of Macon and Bibb County. Some of the changes were purely administrative in nature, but others were innovations that helped the system to maintain its reputation as one of the best in the state.

1. Administrative Changes.

In 1901 when D. Q. Abbott resigned as superintendent of Bibb County schools he was succeeded by Jere M. Pound who had been president of Gordon Institute in Barnesville. Pound held this position until 1904 when he resigned and Professor Carlton B. Chapman was elected in his place. Professor Chapman had served for eighteen years as principal of Gresham High School, and his elevation to the superintendent's place necessitated the election of R. J. Coates to be the new principal. After holding the principal's post for four years, Coates was followed in 1908 by Kyle Alfriend who for two years had been superintendent of schools in Dublin. Alfriend resigned in 1911 to become superintendent of the Tenth District Agricultural School near Sparta. Later when Professor Chapman resigned his superintendent's post in 1912 at his own request he became principal of the high school serving until 1914 when his resignation resulted in the choice of R. W. Edenfield for high school principal. Charles H. Bruce who followed Chapman was the final superintendent of education elected before the war. However, illness necessitated a final major administrative change in 1916 when Professor Edenfield resigned, and R. J. Coates became high school principal in his place. Of course, there were many changes in teacher personnel, but they are too numerous to be incorporated in this history.

2. The Building of New Schools.

A steady increase in Macon's school population during these years resulted in the necessity for expanded schoolroom facilities. In April, 1901, an enrollment of 7,310 pupils was reported and by 1907 this figure had increased to 8,543. The 1907 figure was a forty-four per cent increase over a ten year period.

The school buildings erected to take care of this increase are divided into two classes, those erected out of funds from the Elam Alexander estate, and those erected by funds from other sources. In 1901 the

Alexander Free School Board began the building of a new school on College Street facing Tattnall Square Park. This was named Alexander No. 2. The next of these schools was Alexander No. 3 which was begun in North Highlands during 1910 on a lot donated for that purpose by Senator Bacon. The cost of this building was about $10,000.

During October, 1913, the Alexander Free School Board came under fire when it was made the target for a suit filed in Bibb Superior Court by the heirs of Elam Alexander for the recovery of property now under the control of that board. It was their assertion that the members of this Board were not carrying out the intention of his will. The heirs bringing the suit were the children and grandchildren of Alexander's sister, Mrs. Esther Morrison. This suit involving about $60,000 in bonds and about $75,000 invested in three Alexander buildings came up in May, 1915, and the plaintiffs sought to prove that since the schools built with Alexander money had been transferred to the control of the Bibb County Board of Education the funds used to build these schools no longer inured to the benefit of the poor as intended by Alexander but to the benefit of the taxpayer. The suit was dismissed by the court in July with the ruling that such children do derive benefit from schools provided jointly by this fund and by public funds.

Schools provided by public funds included a new building in the Newburg district of South Macon planned in 1908. It was also in 1908 that the Board of Education decided to ask the City Council to take the necessary steps to bring before the people a $50,000 bond issue that would enable the erection of a new high school and thereby would furnish facilities for separate high school training for boys and girls. Then they decided to wait a bit on this plan. Meanwhile in July, 1909, the Board paid $13,500 for the property on the corner of Forsyth and Orange Streets for the eventual building of a new boys' school. This was a historic spot. It had in the early decades of Macon's history been the site of the Monroe Railroad shops. Then in 1862 the Confederate States bought the property and used it briefly as an armory where percussion caps were manufactured. Still later it was sold as residence lots, and the lot bought by the Board had been the residence of Mrs. W. McCave. With the need for high school space growing more urgent daily, the board began almost at once the renovation of the building already on the lot, and on October 25, 1909, the high school boys used this as their school for the first time. From the start some rooms were over-crowded. The girls continued to attend Gresham High School on the corner of Cotton and Spring Streets, and at the suggestion of C. R. Pendleton, the name Lanier High School for Boys was given to the new school in September, 1910.

With the high schools at least partially provided for, the next step

was to provide a new school in the area extending toward Log Cabin Heights which had been developing so fast. On November 6, 1911, a new frame school building called Clisby School opened on Hillyer Avenue with Miss Jessie Rice as principal. A few days later the small new Bloomfield School in the heart of the Godfrey District opened with Miss Birdie Clay as teacher.

On June 13, 1911, the graduating classes of Gresham and of Lanier formed an alumni association, ruling that all former graduates were eligible for membership. One of the major objects of the group was to create interest in the establishment of a new high school, and Walter Grace, Jr., was its first president.

Realizing in 1912 the complete inadequacy of high school facilities, the Board of Education had a bill introduced into the next legislature authorizing the County Commissioners to levy a tax to raise money for a suitable new high school. This proposal was not as drastic as it seemed since the Commissioners had lowered the tax rate from nine to eight mills in 1911 because of a jump of $2,000,000 in returns for the preceding year. Blair and Adams were chosen architects in March, 1913, and four months later the contract for building the new school went to W. J. Beeland at the cost of $94,687 exclusive of plumbing and heating which was expected to run about $8,000. During the school year 1913-1914 morning and afternoon sessions were held in the Gresham Building.

On September 11, 1913, "The Lanier High School" was the name unanimously chosen by the Board of Education for the new school. The Board also ordered an oil portrait of the poet Sidney Lanier painted by Professor P. P. Carter to hang in the school. The new building in modified Elizabethan style with stone and terra cotta trim erected at a cost of $150,000 opened for the first time on September 21, 1914. The building had a frontage of 160 feet on Orange Street and 154 feet on Forsyth, featured an auditorium with a seating capacity of 1,200 and a stage twenty-three by thirty feet, and had classrooms approximately twenty-one by twenty-eight feet. Professor R. W. Edenfield was its first principal, and the school was co-educational.

When the County Commissioners increased its educational appropriation in 1913, they stipulated that $5,000 of the increase should be used toward a new building in Vineville. However, when definite plans for the new school were made in 1913 it was decided to make this a $30,000 school.

As an outgrowth of a move toward consolidation of several of the small rural schools, the board built four new consolidated schools for both grammar and high school students. Rutland, the first, opened formally on October 29, 1914; Union was dedicated during a community fair on October 21, 1915; and Howard in 1916. In March, 1916, the small schools in the Lizella area asked consolidation which

was planned at once. The last of the small rural schools surrendered its identity when Holton which had at first declined consolidation with Howard was taken in with that school on its own petition on October 12, 1916.

The final pre-war public school building was begun when the contract for a new $40,000 Ballard School was let. Plans called for the construction of three modern brick buildings on Forest Avenue off Vineville to replace the older school on New Street which had been bought by the Macon Hospital.

3. Curricular Innovations.

Sensitive always to the best in educational change, the Board of Education set up a program of manual training in the public schools during 1902. This program extended from simple clay modeling and raffia braiding in the first grade to domestic science and wood working in high school. The program proved so effective that for the first time in 1907-1908 a public school art teacher was named. Miss Lutie Westcott, first to fill this place, held an art exhibit in the Board of Education office in June, 1908.

The next forward step by the education body was the addition of a fourth year in the high school course. The class of 1912 was the first to attend the additional year which set its graduation from high school in 1913. No class actually finished in 1912.

None of these changes met with unfavorable reaction, but the next proposed change had its strong opponents. At its meeting on December 10, 1914, the Board of Education heard a statement by its president, A. L. Miller, that he was convinced in view of the European war that boys "ought to be taught to shoot a gun, take care of themselves, wear uniforms, and obey orders". His ideas were endorsed openly by Brigadier General Walter A. Harris of the Georgia National Guard and former member of the Board and by W. T. Anderson. The Board approved Miller's idea, but decided to leave the choice of a system up to a special committee. The committee endorsed the proposed military training program at the January Board meeting, but later the Macon Ministerial Association, some of whose members were openly opposed, appointed a committee to confer with the education group. In March 1915, the Board decided to put in military training as an optional course. In a lengthy article in defense of military training published in the *Telegraph* on May 9, 1915, G. F. Oliphant who was superintendent of the state school for the blind in Macon set forth "orderliness, punctuality, accuracy, and alertness" with the development of "self-control as well as obedience to proper authority and resistance to improper" as benefits to be derived from such training. The coming of war ended most of the criticism of the system.

One last curricular change planned during these years which exerted

strong influence on the system was the practice of mid-term promotion. The idea extends back at least to 1906 when first discussion of it was held, but it was in February, 1917, that the idea suggested again by Superintendent Bruce was decided upon for recommendation by the committee of the board on course of study. It was later adopted and used for about twenty years.

4. Other Educational Developments.

The year 1901 was an unusually good year as far as educational funds were concerned, for in the appropriation requested in May of that year the Board of Education made a $1,000 decrease over the year before. This was possible because the organization had no outstanding debts.

In April, 1907, a request for salary increases reached the board. The request signed by some of the leading teachers asked for starting salaries to be increased from $30 monthly to $50 and for the setting of $75 as a maximum salary. At its June meeting the Board in answer to this request did raise salaries for beginners to $45 monthly and set a $65 maximum salary allowing some increase for years of service. Additional teacher benefits were assured in November, 1912, when a local Teachers' Retirement Fund Association was formed. It was drawn up by Superintendent Bruce and Principal Chapman.

In September, 1916, the Board of Education received a bequest of $25,000 in property left to it by Mrs. W. B. Hardman of Commerce.

One of the most interesting sidelights on education was the selection of a Macon teacher, Mrs. M. A. Weir, and her husband to arrange the Georgia educational exhibit for the Jamestown Exposition. This exposition commemorating the founding of the first permanent white settlement in America on May 13, 1607, was held from April 26th, the day on which the first of these settlers set foot on American soil, through November 30th. Mr. and Mrs. Weir were chosen at the request of W. B. Merritt, state school commissioner, and the exhibit drew much praise.

Another sidelight was the application for admission to high school of Mayling Soong, youngest of the now internationally famous Soong sisters, who had come to Macon to be with her sister at Wesleyan. The Board of Education denied her request, saying that its members were not authorized to admit an alien to the public schools. For a time she was privately tutored by a Wesleyan faculty member.

B—Removal of the Georgia Academy for the Blind.

At the outset of this period the Georgia Academy for the Blind was operating in a plant on Orange Street now occupied by the Nevarro Apartments. During 1904 the trustees of the school offered the property for sale at a figure not less than $50,000, and they received this price from Willis B. Sparks in 1905. In August of that year the trustees

paid $12,000 for twenty acres of the old Huff Property in Vineville, and a committee appointed to look after the institution headed by Ben C. Smith, president; T. D. Tinsley, secretary; and R. C. Hazlehurst, treasurer completed arrangements for building. When the old building on Orange was razed, a metal box from its cornerstone was rescued and found to be filled with relics of the 1850's. It was resealed and put into the cornerstone of the new building which was opened for operation in 1907. G. L. Oliphant had been chosen head of the school on May 7, 1906, by the trustees who were Ben C. Smith, T. D. Tinsley, Judge A. L. Miller, George B. Jewett, Judge W. H. Felton, Jr., John L. Hardeman, and Captain R. C. Hazlehurst. By early April, 1907, the school was operating with sixty students in the new location where its operation has continued.

C—The Progress of Private Educational Institutions.

1. Mount de Sales.

The old Towns mansion which was bought by Mount de Sales in 1876 continued to serve the Catholic school for a time after the turn of the century. Several additions were made, but in 1910 realizing that the building still did not provide up-to-date school facilities, the authorities had plans drawn for a new school, and on March 19, 1910, the work of tearing down the old building began. Just a few days less than one year later, on March 7, 1911, the new building which has served the school since that time was completed.

2. Mercer.

Mercer's financial status received attention more than once during the pre-war years of the twentieth century. In January, 1901, news came to the college that John D. Rockefeller had made a conditional gift of $15,000 if the school would raise a matching $35,000 to establish a $50,000 endowment fund. A similar offer of $10,000 had previously been lost through failure to meet Rockefeller's condition, so at once an intensive campaign for funds began and by late November the amount required to obtain the gift had been raised.

Again in April, 1905, Andrew Carnegie offered a Mercer Library Fund of $20,000 if Mercer could match it equally. This gift, too, was secured, and in 1908 the new library, begun in mid 1907, was completed.

On April 23, 1912, the local newspapers carried the story of a large bequest to Mercer provided in the will of Judge T. G. Lawson. Although announced as being considerably larger at first, this substantial gift amounted to $50,000. Then just a year later the will of Mrs. Barbara Dodd left a fund of $100,000 to Mercer. Toward the end of the pre-war period, the Baptists of the state announced their intention to launch a $500,000 campaign of which $230,000 was to go to Mercer to pay off its indebtedness.

The school year 1903-1904 brought two important changes to Mercer. The first of these was the completion of two new buildings, the Y.M.C.A. Hall and the Science Hall. The other was the voted decision of the senior class to wear caps and gowns for graduation. So was established in Macon a custom adopted some years before by many of the northern schools.

One of the most startling developments in the college's history for these years was the beginning of an argument to move Mercer to Atlanta. It began rather surprisingly during the Baptist convention of late 1910 in Elberton, and action was promised in 1911. The convention of 1911 voted to defer action for one year until an appointed group of twelve men could study the situation and make a report. The trustees of the college, unfavorable to the move, sounded the deathknell of the plan in 1912 with a resolution that read in part:

"First, that we deprecate this agitation. We believe the attempt to remove the institution a dangerous experiment fraught with the greatest difficulties and which, in the end, if persisted in, may prove disastrous. This sacred trust for the time is in our keeping, and we desire to give this warning to our Baptist brethren throughout the state."

In accordance with their wishes the Convention of 1912 voted to have the college remain in Macon. This decision brought about a need for more land, and in 1914 the college began a campaign to raise $25,000 to buy five additional acres of land, a campaign which was successful.

This was a timely decision as the college suffered heavy loss on December 20, 1916, when the main building of the college burned. The fire originated at the base of the tower room on the fifth floor, and most of the damage was caused by water and the collapse of the steeple. This building contained the president's apartment, the treasurer's office, halls of several fraternities, and a few classrooms.

These years brought a change of presidents first in 1904 when Dr. P. D. Pollock resigned. For a year Professor W. H. Kilpatrick, nationally famous educator, served as chairman of the faculty until 1905 when Dr. Charles Lee Smith who had previously held the chair of history and political science at William Jewell College in Missouri became president. Dr. Smith served only one year and was followed in 1906 by Dr. S. Y. Jameson who continued until 1913. Again for one year there was an acting president, Professor J. F. Sellers, and in 1914 Dr. W. L. Pickard who was then serving as minister of the First Baptist Church of Savannah was named president.

One outstanding curriculum change was the putting in of a two year law course at Mercer beginning in the fall of 1909. Much earlier in 1901 Mercer had led a successful fight in the Legislature to prevent the passage of a bill introduced by Senator Ellis of Bibb County

requiring that a lawyer have two years of attendance at law school or go before an examining board as they claimed it offered discrimination against students already in school for one year terms.

3. Wesleyan.

The year 1903 brought a change of administration to Wesleyan when Dr. W. J. Roberts resigned and was succeeded by Judge DuPont Guerry. The years of his presidency saw the initiation of a campaign begun on October 2, 1903 to rebuild the college chapel. The ceremony of laying the first brick in the chapel enlargement was held on March 23, 1905. Miss Margie Burks who was president of the senior class offered the brick to Mrs. Catherine E. Benson, first graduate of the college, who put it in place.

Another incident of his years of presidency was the final settlement of the question of ownership of a part of the college back campus. Madison Street crossed this campus, but the crossing had never provoked any great controversy as this portion of the street was unused until 1906 when it was ordered worked as city property and opened. Three Methodist churches joined their protests to those of college officials and friends. Judge Guerry in an open hearing before City Council reminded that body of the fact that when the city reclaimed the park in front of the college which had originally been intended for Wesleyan's use, the college had bought the lots back of their building on the condition that they might fence in the whole property. Upon completion of the hearing Council voted a permanent closing of the street.

One of the most significant events of these years was the coming of the first of the three Soong sisters, Eling, who was later joined by her sisters, Chungling and Mayling. The three, who in later years became Madame H. H. Kung, Madame Sun Yat Sen, and Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, were destined to become the most outstanding college women in their nation. At Wesleyan they lived the lives of normal college girls during the years from 1904-1913.

In 1909 Judge Guerry resigned as Wesleyan's president to return to the practice of law and Reverend W. N. Ainsworth was named his successor. Two features of Ainsworth's administration were the erection of a new $25,000 gymnasium and the securing of a $300,000 gift from the General Education Board of New York. Upon his resignation in 1912 to return to the ministry Dr. Charles R. Jenkins was named president. It was in this year that J. A. Flournoy offered Wesleyan fifty acres of land at Rivoli without cost and an option on an additional fifty-five acres, and although the college took no immediate action on the matter, its eyes were turned for the first time toward the site later destined to be its home.

During 1913 there was much talk of the uniting of three Methodist

schools—Wesleyan, LaGrange College, and Andrew College, but in a statement made August 4th, 1913, and signed by the president of each institution such a consolidation was not to be tried because "the interests of each were so complex and varied as to make it practically impossible to work out a satisfactory arrangement."

4. A Private School for the Deaf and Dumb.

In 1911 Miss Laura Arbaugh established an institution known as "Miss Arbaugh's School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children". It is significant because it was one of only three such schools in operation in the United States exclusive of state schools. The state school for such children in Georgia was located at Cave Springs, and repeated efforts were made to bring the state school to Macon and consolidate it with the school of Miss Arbaugh, but this was not done.

VII. Religious Growth Before 1920

Because the years before 1920 saw the establishment of several new churches and the expansion of many others this section will treat primarily with building programs of the various churches in somewhat chronological order. Complete chronology is impossible because of overlapping. On July 28, 1901, the cornerstone of the Jewish Temple laid in 1872 (or 5633 of the Hebrew calendar) was removed from the old synagogue at the corner of Second and Poplar Streets, site of the telephone exchange, to the new Temple Beth Israel Synagogue at the corner of Cherry and Spring Streets. This Temple organized on October 30, 1859, had planned its new building in 1900. When completed shortly afterward, the yellow stucco building with large engaged columns across the facade had a dome painted bright yellow on the outside while the inside was overlaid with stained glass, the whole representing the "All-Seeing Eye of God". The building had six windows over the choir loft each showing an angel holding a globe. The series, symbolic of the six days of creation, followed a design by the English artist Browne-Jones.

On March 8, 1902, the Vineville Baptist congregation met for the first time in its new church at the corner of Vineville Avenue and Lamar Streets. The newly completed building cost $15,000. Reverend R. V. Miller preached the first sermon there. When this church was only ten years old, Dr. J. L. White, E. N. Jelks, R. F. Lawton, F. L. Mallary, B. W. James, and C. D. Peavy who made up a committee of six appointed to plan a larger church purchased instead a lot on the corner of Vineville and Pierce Avenues, but actual building on the new lot was postponed until after the war.

The Diamond Jubilee of Methodism in Macon was celebrated during October, 1903, with Bishop O. P. Fitzgerald and Reverend Alonzo Monk as distinguished visitors. Just a week after the close of

this celebration, the children of Centenary Methodist Church performed the cornerstone laying of that building. Constructing such a large church as that on the corner of College and Ash Streets was such an ambitious undertaking for so small a flock that it was not until July 13, 1913, that the building was completed and a sermon of dedication was preached by Reverend H. B. Bardwell who had helped to plan the church twenty years before and who now was president of Candler College in Havana, Cuba.

November 15, 1903, was the date of the formal dedication of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, the construction of which had been started before 1901. One newspaper of the day called the architecture of the structure "frozen music", and the church at the corner of Poplar and New Streets stands as a monument to the zeal of a relatively small church group who erected it. The structure with its tall Gothic towers showed a Byzantine influence in its numerous sweeping arches and small columns. In the cruciform interior were three carrara marble altars, and the floor and columns were also of marble. The stained glass windows from Bavarian Munich were of the finest. Present for the dedication services were the pastor, Father Winkelreid, and his assistant, Father McDonnell; Bishop Monaghan of Delaware; and Bishop Keiley of Savannah. Professor J. G. Weisz played the organ for the services, and his daughter is the only other organist who has served in the church to this date.

During the next year, 1904, dedication services of the First Street Methodist Church came on January 24th, and before the end of the year the cornerstone of the Second Street Methodist Church had been laid. The second of these churches was opened formally on June 25th of the next year with Reverend W. N. Ainsworth presiding.

Several additional churches were born in these pre-war days. On April 29, 1904, a small congregation of thirty-seven members organized the Vineville Presbyterian Church. By April 2, 1910, the congregation had increased to over a hundred members, and on that date the cornerstone was laid for a new church on the corner of Vineville Avenue and Culver Street planned by a building committee of T. S. Lowry, G. T. Kinnett, R. C. Corbin, C. O. Stone, and J. H. Pellew.

In 1907 the Tabernacle Baptist Church organized and built a small house of worship. Just seven years later this church had grown sufficiently to warrant a drive for $25,000 to purchase a lot on the corner of Arch and Second Streets and to erect a new church.

A group of Episcopal residents of Cherokee Heights gathered at the home of Alexander Blair on Napier Avenue in October, 1911, and formed the St. James Parish Church. After holding Sunday School in the home of L. P. Hillyer for a time, this church through gifts from its parishioners and proceeds from the sale of old St. Barnabas Chapel in South Macon (which had been abandoned and sold because of

changes in the centers of population) bought a lot on Napier Avenue and completed its parish organization in January, 1915. The first vestry of the church included O. A. Coleman, Senior Warden; E. B. Coleman, Junior Warden; and E. W. Stetson, Marshall J. Ellis, R. H. Plant, Gray H. Coleman, and Warren Wilson, vestrymen.

Methodist residents of this same area met on November 12, 1915, at the home of James Platt on Pio Nono Avenue near Napier and laid the foundations for the Cherokee Heights Methodist Church. Their organization was the outgrowth of a tent meeting held on the spot by Reverend Arthur Moore, an evangelist who later became a bishop. The original small frame church erected there was later moved to make room for a new brick structure. It now faces Pio Nono and serves as the church parsonage. Another church of the same denomination started just four months later was the Newberg Methodist Church begun on March 5, 1916, with the following trustees: T. A. Benson, G. M. Rainey, W. M. Wagner, L. M. LaFarge, and J. H. Curry.

The First Christian Church was building a new church home in 1914, and the pastor and the congregation of this group did the actual construction work for the basement of the building on the corner of Orange and High Streets, a site which they continued to occupy until after the close of the second World War.

One of the most interesting church building programs of pre-war years was that of the negro Washington Avenue Presbyterian church whose history dates back to a resolution passed by the First Presbyterian Church on October 21, 1838, that provided services for "the blacks connected with the members of this congregation", and authorized the white minister to preach to the servants as often as possible and to secure aid as he deemed it desirable. This aid is later described as Joe, "a slave of Mr. Williams of St. Mary's". Rapidly outgrowing their quarters in the basement of the white church, this group erected its own building during the winter of 1838-1839 but remained under the jurisdiction of the First Presbyterian group until after the war when in 1869 they built the church which they were now trying to remodel.

Two outstanding revivals were held in these years. Reverend Sam Jones led services during March, 1905, just a year before his death in 1906. Sponsored by the combined Protestant churches Gypsy Smith, the noted evangelist, preached to large congregations during three weeks in January, 1916.

VIII. Community Enterprises

Many of the events, occurrences, and movements of the pre-world war years in Macon represented community efforts. They resulted from a growing feeling of civic pride and were made possible by the cooperation of the majority of the citizens of the city. There was a

distinct and concerted effort during this era to make Macon a convention city, to advertise it favorably among nearby communities, to attract visitors to the city, and to promote organizations which were interested not only in fraternal pleasures but also in public welfare. Some effort is here made to organize these enterprises.

A—Fairs in Macon.

In its earliest years Macon had begun a practice of holding fairs, but this custom had been discontinued during the tragic years following the War Between the States. Interest in the holding of such expositions was stimulated in April, 1901 when a street fair covering eight blocks of Third and Mulberry Streets attracted popular attention with its displays as well as such added attractions as an electric fountain, daily balloon ascensions, a Dog and Pony Show, a Chinese theatre, and various foreign village showings.

Later in 1901 the Elks, a fraternal organization, sponsored a street fair that extended from the park in front of the Federal building on Third Street across to Plum and featured many attractions and concessions. They were trying to raise $3,000 for their building fund.

It was in 1903 that the revival of interest in fairs reached its peak with the formation of a chartered Macon Fair Association with a subscribed capital of $25,000. J. W. Cabaniss was chosen president of the association and E. J. Willingham became vice-president. Both of these men were directors, and other directors included Ben L. Jones, George A. Smith, Morris Waterman, Sam Altmayer, R. C. Hazlehurst, J. A. Newcomb, Joseph Block, and W. J. Massee, while George Ketchum was secretary. There had been no state fair in Macon since 1851, the nearest approach being an exhibition in 1868 by the State Agricultural Society in the old Confederate laboratory building on the Forsyth Road at Crumps Park. So, once the Association determined to hold one, interest ran high. City Council voted $7,000 to put Central City Park and the buildings into better condition. This fund was partially financed with a check for $5,302.72 which the city received from the United States government in July, 1903, as payment for damages done to the park by soldiers camped there during the Spanish-American war.

The fair was held October 21-31, 1903, and featured horse racing every afternoon except Sunday when no program was given except an afternoon band concert. On the opening day of the fair Mayor Bridges Smith made an address of welcome and the exposition was formally begun with the pressing of a button by Miss Hennie Lou Hughes and Miss Lila Cabaniss. On the second day when there was a mammoth baby show, Martha Ruth Grace, small daughter of Attorney Walter J. Grace; reigned as queen; and the prize for the most beautiful decorated baby carriage was given to one occupied by Melvyn Edward Hesselberg, son of a Wesleyan College music professor, who later

attained movie fame under the name of Melvyn Douglas. According to a newspaper description, "It was literally covered with fresh morning glories." Auto races were a feature of one day, and Governor Joseph M. Terrell made an address on October 26th. The success of the fair was assured on the first day when attendance reached 50,000.

Before the next year's fair, the Floral Building, built in 1871, and largest structure in the park, burned on May 13th. It was rebuilt with insurance money but was destroyed again on September 22nd by a terrific storm that damaged other buildings. It was rebuilt immediately.

After the first year, fairs became a yearly attraction. The one of 1910 featured a demonstration of a Wright bi-plane by Aviator Frank Coffyn. During the fair of 1911 Eugene Burton Ely famous Curtiss Company aviator, fell to death on October 19th before a shocked crowd that was watching him stunt. Another feature of this year's entertainment was the appearance of Colonel W. F. ("Buffalo Bill") Cody.

In 1915 Governor's Day at the fair drew especial interested because Macon's own Governor Nat E. Harris attended and spoke. It was not until the fall of 1918 that war and an influenza epidemic threatened a break in the annual holding of fairs; but even then the fair was held, opening one day before the Armistice celebration.

B—Some Pre-War Conventions.

Following the second annual meeting of the Georgia Cotton Growers' Association in Macon in July, 1901, with Harvie Jordan presiding, plans were started for the entertainment of the National Farmers' Congress whose twenty-second annual session convened in Macon, October 7-10. City Council voted $500 to help entertain the group of about 800 delegates from thirty-four states. Meetings held in the old Academy of Music featured addresses by many notables in the field of agriculture, and under tents in front of the building there were agricultural displays from Jones, Bibb, and Laurens counties.

A few of the organizations selecting Macon as a gathering place were the Pharmaceutical Society in 1904, the Georgia Travelers' Protective Association in 1905, and the sixteenth annual convention of bankers in 1907.

Also in 1907 the Georgia Immigration Association held a Macon meeting with Swedes, Scotchmen, Germans, Bohemians, Danes, and some other nationalities attending. It is interesting to read this sentence from an editorial in the *Telegraph* on the subject, "The people of the South are just beginning to realize the wonderful, undeveloped resources of this Heaven-blessed section and to feel the need of opening our doors to the tide of immigration from the overcrowded lands across the seas — the need of inviting workers to come in and co-

operate with us and enjoy the rich heritage which Providence has placed here for the benefit of humanity."[7]

Macon played host in October, 1901, to the state reunion of United Confederate Veterans of Georgia, a reunion which brought between fifteen and twenty thousand visitors. But it was in 1912 from May 7th to 9th that the city entertained the general Confederate Veterans' Reunion. A tented city named the "John B. Gordon Camp" was set up in Central City Park, and $70,000 was the fund raised for entertainment of this group and its affiliated organization, the Confederate Southern Memorial Association. Miss Mary Scandrett was chosen queen of the reunion by vote, and among her maids of honor were Misses Harriotte Winchester, Blanche Nisbet, Jennie Riley, and Jewel Jacobs. Souvenirs of the meeting were coin medallions featuring the last meeting between Generals Lee and Jackson. Macon's Thomas Hardeman Camp of veterans was the largest in the entire group. The first day was given over mainly to speeches, the second to memorial services followed by the crowning of the queen, and the third to the selection of a new commander and a huge parade that took an hour and twenty-five minutes to pass. This record crowd of about 46,000 was an enormous increase over the first reunion ever held which was organized by Mrs. James H. Ray, wife of a Confederate general (in Macon for this reunion), and held at her home "Ramoth" in Asheville, North Carolina, on July 4, 1889.

C—Memorial Movements.

The R. A. Smith Camp of United Confederate Veterans decided in February, 1903 to build a monument to the women of Bibb County and to place it in the park on Mulberry Street opposite Mulberry Methodist Church. After deciding in December, 1904, to ask 200 Macon citizens to contribute five dollars each, the plans progressed to a cornerstone laying ceremony with Roland Ellis as speaker of the day on November 9, 1905. On December 10th following this the *Telegraph* put out a special memorial edition dedicated to "Our Women in the War" with Mrs. W. H. Felton as guest editor. This was to be the first monument to Confederate women ever erected. However, financial difficulties prevented further action until June 3, 1911, when the completed memorial on the park where First Street crosses Poplar was unveiled by Misses Shirley Curry, Constance Jaques, Hazel Hamilton, and Leila Rogers with James McCaw, Richard Hines, Jack Hall, Francis Kinney, and Davenport Guerry Kinney serving as pages. In charge of the ceremony was Captain A. F. Jones, Commander of the R. A. Smith Camp, and the principal address was made by John T. Moore. The delay in completion kept this from being the first monument erected.

7. Telegraph—Issue February 16, 1907.

Another memorial which drew the attention of Maconites was that erected to the memory of Captain Henry Wirz, Confederate commandant of the prison at Andersonville, Georgia, which had been planned by the United Daughters of the Confederacy to honor one who they believed died a martyr to the Confederate cause. There was a determined move to have this monument placed in Macon because it was here that Captain Wirz had appeared, in answer to a summons, before General Wilson at his headquarters reported to be in the Clisby home in Vineville. He was dismissed and told to return to his wife and child in Andersonville, but before he could return, he was seized and taken to Washington where he was sentenced to death by a military court on charges of excessive cruelty to federal prisoners and was executed on November 10, 1865. At its state convention in March, 1909, the sponsoring group decided against Macon in favor of Andersonville, and there on May 12, 1909, the monument was unveiled.

The members of the Macon History Club initiated a concerted effort in February, 1913, to build a memorial to Sidney Lanier. The idea was not an original one; it had been suggested many times. In fact, Harry Stillwell Edwards had presented a life sized portrait of Lanier to the Macon Volunteers, of which he had been a member, during this very month. It was also announced that Dr. James Edward Graybell, a classmate of Lanier's, then in New York, was chairman of a New York group that was working toward the same end.

On August 14, 1915, Mrs. Edwin S. Davis who was chairman of the club's Sidney Lanier Memorial Committee announced that a fund of $492.06 had been collected up to that date.

D—Some Accomplishments of the Chamber of Commerce

By the start of the second decade of the twentieth century the Chamber of Commerce was a thriving and progressive organization. Its goal for 1912 was 12,000 members, and Dr. W. G. Lee who had been appointed chairman of the membership committee began work at once to obtain 2,000 new members. It was Dr. Lee who originated the idea of a "Booster Train" to be sent out from Macon to outlying trade areas so this drive was called the "Booster Train Membership Campaign." The campaign ended successfully, and in September the Booster Train, carrying a hundred Macon merchants or their representatives traveled from Macon to Columbus, to Albany, to Valdosta, and back to Macon stopping along the way at smaller towns lying between these. It was formally called the Macon Trade Special and was an effort to extend the Macon trade territory.

In 1913 in connection with a state-wide celebration of Georgia Products Day sponsored by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the Macon Chamber of Commerce entertained 300 guests at a Georgia Products Dinner, on November 18, 1913. Every item served from the entree through the cigars provided after the meal were Georgia made.

Presided over by retiring president E. W. Stetson as toastmaster, the dinner featured an address by Charles J. Haden of Atlanta, president of the Georgia organization, and talks by such representative Macon citizens as Bridges Smith, Dr. R. Holmes Mason, Prof. C. H. Bruce, J. Clay Murphey, and Harry Stillwell Edwards. At a short business meeting following the dinner W. E. Dunwody was named new president of the Macon Chamber, and other officers included Guy E. Paine, first vice-president; H. B. Erminger, Jr., second vice-president; and R. C. Souder, treasurer. E. H. Hyman was the executive secretary of the group at this time.

"Greater Macon" became the working slogan of this body in 1916, and on January 24, 1916, it held a Greater Macon dinner in the interest of its campaign.

This section cannot chronicle the work of the Chamber of Commerce in any treatment so brief as this. To the body goes a large measure of the credit due for the phenomenal growth of Macon during the pre-war years. It was actively interested in every civic enterprise large or small and was responsible for the success of many of them. The activities discussed here are those which were entirely the work of this group.

E—The Origin of Some Fraternal, Civic, and Other Miscellaneous Organizations.

By the beginning of the new century, most of the fraternal orders now in existence in Macon had already been formally organized. However, in September, 1904, the Knights of Columbus organized, and degrees were conferred on sixty applicants.

In 1908 the Shriners of Macon began an intensive drive for permission to establish their own temple, but they were opposed chiefly by Alee Temple of Savannah which claimed that a Macon temple would encroach on their territory. So Macon Shriners continued having to affiliate with either Alee in Savannah or Yarab in Atlanta until 1910 when the Imperial Council granted their temple. Then on January 12, 1910, Macon's Al Sihah Temple was instituted with proper ceremony. Mallary H. Taylor, G. Glen Toole, and Walter A. Chapman were the three to whom the establishment of the temple was due, and Toole was named first Illustrious Potentate.

Macon's Rotary Club, one of the most outstanding of the civic clubs, was the outgrowth of a meeting held January 7, 1914. John W. Hancock who had originated the move in Macon was elected president of the club, and other officers chosen were W. T. Anderson, vice-president; W. G. Billings, secretary; and J. Freeman Hart, treasurer. John E. Shelby of Birmingham, vice-president of Rotary International, was the speaker. Helpfulness was announced as the club's keynote with the betterment of civic conditions as its purpose.

One of the most ambitious undertakings of the young club was the sponsorship of a Georgia Jubilee held for the first time May 19-21, 1914. It began with the idea of John J. McKay for the Rotary Club to hold a May festival, and when the idea captured the public imagination and grew into the formation of a Jubilee Association, McKay was made chairman of the executive committee with Emory Winship as president. Mrs. J. T. Wright was chosen chairman of the woman's auxiliary of the association with Mrs. J. T. Nyhan and Misses Florence Bernd and Rosa Taylor as assistants. Activities of the first day included a Better Babies Contest and a parade. Prince Prosperity presided over the festivities, and Mayor Bridges Smith gave him the key to the city. The second day featured a continuation of the Better Babies Contest, a "Dokey" parade staged by about a thousand members of secret and civic orders in costume, a suffrage meeting, and a Grand Jubilee Ball. (Anti-suffragettes were not active during the festivities but identified themselves by the wearing of a red rose.) The final day featured the awarding of prizes in the Better Babies Contest by the judge, Miss Anna Steese Richardson, director of the Better Babies Bureau of the *Woman's Home Companion* magazine. James D. Lucas, Jr., received a gold medal as the perfect baby. Other attractions included a historical pageant on Coleman Hill that portrayed the attack and defense of Fort Hawkins, eight Maypole drills on Mulberry Street parks, and a masquerade street carnival. One additional feature was a Good Roads Rally at which Governor Slaton and others spoke.

The next year a group of business and professional men met in February and decided to make the Georgia Jubilee Association a permanent corporation. Bridges Smith who served as temporary chairman appointed John J. McKay to be head of an organization committee including, besides himself, Frank H. Powers, E. W. Burke, and Walter A. Harris. Later Bridges Smith was elected president of the association, W. E. Dunwody became first vice-president, and P. A. Fenimore who had managed the first Jubilee was named secretary and manager. The second Jubilee was also highly successful.

The Bibb County Humane Society was organized at a meeting held at the Macon Public Library on May 15, 1907, and Hugh V. Washington was chosen permanent chairman. It was a part of the national Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and Animals movement.

Two organizations for children born during this period had their origin in the same year. On January 20, 1912, the Dorothy Blount Lamar chapter of the Children of the Confederacy organized and named Louise Callaway as its president. Other officers included Orlana Gould, Leila Legg, Anne Townsend Bowdre, Claire Boifeuillet, Amelia Anderson, and Tinsley West. Later in the same year the Cherokee Campfire Girls organized under Mrs. E. G. Kingsbury, leader.

IX. Some Efforts of Protective Agencies

A—Health.

Some of the health measures considered during the pre-war years seem amusing to a present-day Macon. For example, the city Board of Health passed an ordinance in 1901 forbidding the beating of rugs and carpets within the city limits. Yet others are quite modern in aspect as the problem of large quantities of dead fish floating in the river during July, 1902. Various causes were suggested for the latter situation including illegal dumping of lime by fishermen and the blasting going on at Juliette. However, public opinion leaned toward the theory of sewage dumping by industrial plants as the chief cause. The problem settled itself when the fish stopped dying.

After building a new pest house for smallpox cases on the city reserve in 1901, Council voted down an ordinance requiring compulsory vaccination for the disease in January, 1904. Yellow fever, which raged in New Orleans during 1905, caused a flurry of health certificate issuance in Macon. These certificates were issued to individuals on the basis of non-exposure to the disease and were meant to be protection in case quarantine became necessary. This never happened, but the city did add extra garbage wagons and make more frequent inspections in an effort to keep the section healthy.

During 1907 Dempsey Pond at the corner of Seventh and Walnut Streets was drained as a health measure, and the Board of Health asked for an additional $2,600 to finance the addition of four new trash carts.

On May 1, 1912, Council acted upon a recommendation of the Board of Health and named F. H. Keller Macon's first food inspector.

Of course, during all of these years an ever enlarging sewer building program was in progress with especial emphasis in the latter years on the sewering and closing of Vineville Branch. On June 4, 1916, Macon's oldest sewer built fifty years before between Broadway and Fifth Streets on Poplar caved in and had to be rebuilt.

B—Fire.

Efforts toward increased fire protection in these years centered around the changeover from horse-drawn to motorized equipment. This began in 1909 with the purchase of an automobile fire engine that was capable of a sixty mile an hour speed. The vehicle cost $8,500 and was expensive in more ways than one, for on May 5, 1910, just a month after its arrival a blow-out wrecked the engine killing three firemen and injuring five others. Repairs by the manufacturers cost $1,000 and delayed its use until late October. However, the accident did not discourage the advocates of automobile equipment, and on January 8, 1913, the last piece of horse-drawn equipment in Macon

was replaced. Throughout these years fire loss continued far too heavy, along both residential and business lines.

C—Military.

Macon's military installations were well established by the beginning of the 1900's. They had played their roles in more than one war. So they were fully prepared when on September 23, 1906, they received a call from Governor Terrell to report to Atlanta for military duty. A tense situation there was the outgrowth of a strike by street car employees with a mixup of racial difficulties involved. The Volunteers and the Floyd Rifles under the command of Colonel Walter A. Harris answered the call while the Hussars stayed at home for the city's protection. They remained in Atlanta through September 26th. Feeling was running high so Mayor Smith ordered the suppression of a play scheduled to be given in Macon called "The Clansmen". However, a near riot occurred when William Solomon and Charles Adams, two well known young Macon men, were stabbed by an excited negro in a crowd at the fair grounds. The negro was attacked and wounded on the spot by the crowd. Later a mob burst open the jail in an effort to get him. Authorities had wisely taken him immediately to Atlanta, and upon an appeal by W. G. Solomon and Horace Adams, father and brother of the two young men, the mob dispersed. The negro was later tried and given a jail sentence, and what might have been a tragedy was averted.

The militia was ordered by the governor to stand by a few days after its return from Atlanta when efforts to settle a strike of Macon street car employees failed. The only local disorder was the stoning of a South Macon car, and through the efforts of three Macon citizens, W. E. Small, Joseph N. Neel, and Walter Dannenberg, an agreement was soon reached.

In January, 1915, a new Macon military company was born. Officially titled the Macon Guards, it was added to the National Guard of Georgia. A machine gun company, it became the thirteenth company of the regiment, and Boyce E. Miller was named its captain.

X. Opportunities for Cultural Growth, and Other Varied Forms of Amusement

The legitimate theater flourished in Macon in the early years of the twentieth century. Maconites had an opportunity to see such outstanding performers as Madame Modjeska, who appeared in "Henry VIII" in 1901 and as Lady Macbeth in 1906. Otis Skinner presented an adaptation of a Robert Louis Stevenson novel in his "Prince Otto" and was seen later in "Lazarre". Ibsen's "Doll House" played at the Grand in 1907 with Florence Davis in the lead. Anna Held lived up

to the public expectation of temperamentalism of an actress when she created quite a local scene over the loss of her big black poodle at Jesup while en route to Macon, but quite captured her public again after the safe return of the dog with her appearance in "Papa's Wife", a musical comedy.

Music lovers, too, were entertained by such attractions as the music festival held at Wesleyan in April, 1907, during which visiting artists assisted in the presentation of "Athelie" by Mendelssohn and "The Rose Maiden" by Dr. F. H. Cowan. Victor Herbert and his orchestra gave a concert in Macon on April 24, 1911; Madame Lillian Nordica sang in March, 1912; and in November, 1915, Maconites heard the operas "Don Pasquale", and "Lucia di Lammermoor" with baritone Rossini one of the outstanding voices.

Also in 1912 Anna Pavlowa and her company made a Macon appearance and received rave notices from critics.

In the field of literature Dr. Henry Van Dyke lectured to an audience in the annex of Mulberry Street Methodist Church during 1902 on "Moral Law as Applied to Art", and in reporting his speech the newspaper said, "Dr. Van Dyke's word painting was said to be the most striking ever heard in Macon". Harry Stillwell Edwards was still achieving prominence in this field. In 1907 "The White Spider" which had appeared in 1896 in the *Century* caught the fancy of Princess Gagarine, wife of the Russian Consul General at Beirut, Syria, who wrote for permission to translate the story into Russian. In 1912, Harry Stillwell Edwards was elected to membership in the National Institute of Arts and Letters and was believed at the time the only Georgian ever to be so honored. During 1915 another of his stories, "The Third Light", appeared in *Saturday Evening Post.* During early 1910 a law book by Judge William A. Poe was published. It contained an annotated digest of currently used Georgia laws.

Meanwhile other forms of amusement were catching the public fancy. An amusement park was rapidly expanding at Crumps Park. The Macon Railway and Light Company financed the building of a new theater at this place in 1905 along with other improvements and the erection of a dance pavilion. During the summer season there were plays each night, concerts each afternoon, and such attractions as a shooting gallery, an electrical theater and a moving picture show. This park continued to be a popular spot throughout the pre-war years.

Another amusement park developed at Rice's Mill in 1914 on a spot near the present intersection of Rocky Creek Road and Pio Nono By-pass under the name of Edgewood Park. Harry Stillwell Edwards opened the Holly Bluff Country Club during the same year at White Elk. Just prior to this in 1913 the privately owned Idle Hour Club opened in its present location. This club was a successor to the older

Log Cabin Club which had bought the 160 acre tract at Rivoli from John T. Moore and W. Jordan Massee.

In the realm of sports baseball was a popular attraction. The Macon ball club won the pennant in the South Atlantic League during 1904. A National League team, the Brooklyn "Superbas", played an exhibition game with the Macon club during its spring training program in April, 1907, and Nap Rucker pitched. The weather was so cold the teams played in sweaters. It was in 1908 that the Macon team received the name "Peaches" which was first suggested by Miss Anne B. Griffin as "Elberta Peaches" in a naming contest.

Horse racing was another form of entertainment. It was nearly always a feature of the annual fairs, and a most popular one. Two famous horses were seen by Maconites in action during these years— "Cresceus" called "The King of Trotters" who held a world's record in 1902, and "Dan Patch", a harness horse racer, that established two new records in Macon during 1903. During 1907 the Log Cabin Club held its first annual horse show with 150 horses entered. Nat Winship served as Ring Master.

A revival of an entertainment feature not seen in twenty-one years was the Kirmess presented with local talent on April 7, 1915, for the benefit of charity. Mrs. H. M. Wortham and Emory Winship reigned as king and queen of this festival of song and dance which continued to be given periodically for about ten years.

Several theaters not before mentioned were opened during this period. The new Palace theater opened at 620 Cherry Street on March 20, 1911, and ten days later the Bijou began operating on Cotton Avenue. Also a new movie house was built on Second Street on the site of the present Capitol Theater.

However, it was toward the end of the pre-war years that the most far reaching aesthetic move in Macon began with the presentation by the Alkahest Lyceum System of a type of entertainment called a Chautauqua. During May, 1916, the brief Chautauqua offered at Daisy Park and featuring concerts by the Lyceum Ladies Orchestra of Chicago and lectures by Ralph Parlette was so successful that a determined small group of citizens began an intensive cmapaign to have Macon chosen as the site for the Chautauqua of the South to parallel the older and well established Chautauqua of the North. They were successful after meeting three conditions set by the association which were first, to provide adequate auditorium facilities for the first three weeks session; second, to secure advance pledges for 2,000 tickets; and third, to provide about 750 accres of land, about 400 to be developed for Chautauqua use and about 350 to be divided and sold as residential lots to protect Chautauqua grounds. The first of these conditions was met by the remodeling of the old depot building as a temporary audi-

torium and the promise of a permanently constructed building, while the second was removed by an offer of 750 acres of land on the west bank of the Ocmulgee for Chautauqua use by Emory Winship with the provision that the land was to revert to the family if the Chautauqua idea was abandoned. So in January, 1917, the following local committee composed of some of Macon's most prominent citizens was named: Mayor Smith, chairman; Rev. R. E. Douglas, Rev. E. C. Dargan, Rev. T. D. Ellis, Rev. Charles H. Lee, Rev. Joseph B. Frankhauser, Rabbi Harry Weiss, Dr. W. L. Pickard, Dr. Charles R. Jenkins, W. T. Anderson, R. L. McKenney, John A. Streyer, W. W. Hackett, J. S. Bloodworth, T. J. Carling, Guy E. Paine, Holmes Mason, W. E. Dunwody, A. R. Willingham, Malcolm D. Jones, C. B. Rhodes, Charles B. Lewis, W. E. Small, C. H. Bruce, W. G. Middlebrooks, and James R. Gillette.[8]

The first of several Chautauquas sponsored by this association was held for three weeks beginning March 18, 1917. Present for the opening session was United States Vice-President Thomas Riley Marshall, who made an address on National Tendencies. Mrs. Marshall accompanied him. Never before had Macon enjoyed such a prolonged festival of the best in entertainment. Metropolitan opera singers, lectures, Shakespearean plays featuring such players as Maud Booth, and choral singing entertained capacity crowds in the depot auditorium. The old building which had heard the voices of such men as Stephen Douglas and Jefferson Davis in the bitter days of separation between the North and South now saw a peaceful uniting of the two with this Southern sister organization of a Northern institution.

XI. The Old Order Passes

The reviewing of any period of history brings with it a certain feeling of nostalgia, a certain sense of sadness over the passing away of old institutions and the grand old men of yesterday. So it is with this era of Macon's history.

A—Old Landmarks.

Several familiar landmarks disappeared in these years, some of them destroyed by fire or flood, and some sacrificed in the name of progress. Quite early in the city's history the residents of Vineville had formed a congregation and built a small wooden Methodist church. When the residential development of the town proceeded in this direction and the section became more populous, the congregation erected a new brick church on the same location and sold the wooden church to Lamar Clay who moved it to East Macon and sold it to a colored congregation. On March 2, 1902, Macon experienced one of the worst floods in its history, and during the course of it the little church was

8. Macon Telegraph, January 19, 1917.

picked up and carried down stream with its bell tolling solemnly as it tilted underneath the Fifth Street bridge where the bell was knocked off.

Fire destroyed the home of Harry Stillwell Edwards on April 10, 1904, burning much of his household property and part of the original manuscript for his prize winning novel, "Sons and Fathers".

In 1908 the historic old county jail on Fourth Street between Cherry and Poplar near Poplar Street corner was torn down to make way for a new building. Describing its destruction the Telegraph reported: "Yesterday the cupola in which hung a bell, the ringing of which at 9 o'clock at night meant that no negro should be on the streets without a written permit from his or her owner, was being torn down piece by piece."[9] (Bridges Smith reminisced that out of this permit grew the familiar old Southern word "pater-roller" which was the negro's word for the two town marshals or patrollers whose duty it was to check these written permits.) The jail built several years before the war was used briefly during that period as a prison for Union soldiers. Then when the county jail on Mulberry and Fifth was burned during the war, it served both county and city as jail until the erection of a new one. After its abandonment as a jail it had served for a time as a candy factory and at the time of its removal was used as a stable.

An old house on the corner of Walnut and Third Streets torn down in 1909 was the one in which the first services of Christ Church had been held. According to tradition it also served as a bank of which William G. Hunter was president, and the services were held in the counting room.

During the same year an attempt was made to lay old ghosts with the purchase of the old Woolfolk home on Thomaston Road by Ben L. Jones for headquarters of the Macon Automobile Club, but its use as such was short lived, and again it stood idle.

In 1912 fire destroyed the old Confederate laboratory on the Forsyth Road near Crumps Park. It had been the idea of the Confederate government to make Macon a distribution point and base of ammunition supplies with extra provision of a factory for percussion caps where the Lanier High School was later built on Forsyth Street. It operated only briefly before it was taken over by the Federal government. Later it had been used as a barrel factory, but some time earlier the Central Railroad had bought it from the Bibb Manufacturing Company with the plan to make a creosote factory there.

The old home built by Nat R. Winship but used more recently as a club house by the Log Cabin Club until its transformation into the Idle Hour Club burned in Log Cabin Heights on November 20, 1914.

City Market House standing in the center of Poplar Street between First and Second since 1887 was the next familiar landmark to be

9. Telegraph—Issue January 21, 1908.

razed by an order of City Council in December, 1915. The building which was no longer being used for the purpose planned had drawn much criticism because of its use as a dumping ground for inferior meat that was sold to hucksters who in turn peddled it throughout the city. Now it was ordered sold to the highest bidder, and Proudfit Park was created in its place. This is by no means a complete record of the old structures that faded in history; it tells only of an interesting few.

B—The Passing of Representative Maconites.

It would be an impossible task to attempt to record the death of every Macon citizen during the pre-war years so only those who were marked as pioneer residents or who had made outstanding contributions to the life of the city have been included. The first of these was Dr. William F. Holt who died at Saratoga, New York, on September 11, 1901. Born near Holton on August 23, 1836, Dr. Holt had been a prominent Macon physician. A few months later on November 3, 1901, Mrs. Mary Washington died in the house on the corner of College Street and Hardeman Avenue that was later to be the site of the public library given to the city by her daughter, Mrs. Ellen W. Bellamy.

On March 9, 1902, Samuel S. Dunlap died. He had been a resident of Macon since 1849, had organized and led the Bibb County Cavalry during the War Between the States, and had been most active in Macon's civic life.

The year 1903 brought death to two pioneer Maconites on dates less than a month apart. Henry Plant Westcott, resident of Macon since 1830 and a charter member of Floyd Rifles died August 24th while George R. Barker, merchant and resident since 1846, died on September 11th.

Nathan C. Munroe, who figured so prominently in Macon's early history, died in Washington, November 26, 1904.

During 1905 Mrs. J. Mercer Green, born in Macon in 1825 and daughter of Oliver H. Prince who was most active in the first decades of Macon's history, died on January 13th. Her death was followed on March 7th by the death of Joseph Marshall Johnston who, although not a native of the city, was one of its most influential business men and a financier. Apoplexy ended the outstanding legal career of Washington Dessau on April 13, 1905, as he was arguing a case in an Atlanta court. One of his most valuable contributions to the city had been his part in the establishment of the Masonic Home. Professor Ferdinand A. Guttenberger, well known musician, died from the same cause on September 1, 1905.

Thomas J. Simmons who had served as colonel in the regiment of Stonewall Jackson during the sixties died on September 13, 1905. He had been president of the Georgia Senate, Solicitor General of Macon,

and Judge of the Macon Circuit. At the time of his death he was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

A veteran educator, Professor Charles William Kilpatrick died on February 6, 1906, at the age of fifty-one.

The first graduate of Wesleyan College, Mrs. Catherine Brewer Benson, died on February 28, 1908. Born in Augusta in 1822 she had moved to Macon to live in 1837 and had resided for a number of years in the old Corbin home on Vineville Avenue. Funeral services for Mrs. Benson were conducted from Wesleyan College.

Ben L. Jones and Henry J. Lamar, both prominent business men and civic leaders died during 1909.

The oldest citizen of Macon, Mrs. Sarah Carolyn Butts, died on July 16, 1910 at the age of 91. Born in Monticello on December 10, 1819, Mrs. Butts had moved to Macon in 1825 with her parents, George and Elizabeth Stovall. Her father was the hotel keeper who entertained General LaFayette, and her husband Albert G. Butts whom she married in 1837 was one of the very early boat builders on the Ocmulgee.

Professor R. T. Asbury, oldest living graduate of Mercer University, died on October 18, 1910 at the age of 85. He had graduated in 1847 before the removal of that institution to Macon.

A man who had served at one time as head of the Bibb Manufacturing Company and who later had become president of the Central Railroad Company, Major J. F. Hanson, died in Atlanta on December 15, 1910.

Death came on August 17, 1911 to John C. Butler, author of Butler's "History of Macon". In addition to his invaluable record of the early years of Macon, he had been a veteran telegraph operator.

Walter J. Grace, Solicitor General of the Macon Circuit and a resident of Macon for twenty years, died on March 31, 1912. He was a man who was fearlessly aggressive on matters of principle.

On November 4, 1913, Alexander Proudfit died. He was called by Bridges Smith "father of the Market House" and had been a staunch advocate of parks.

The city suffered a signal loss in the death on January 17, 1914, of Charles R. Pendleton who had served as editor of the *Telegraph* since 1896. Born in Effingham County on June 26, 1850, he came to Macon in 1896 from Valdosta where he had been editor of the Valdosta *Times*. It was under his leadership that this newspaper began to play an active part in the pushing of all civic enterprises. W. T. Anderson, who succeeded him as editor of the newspaper, in an editorial said of him: "He was most scrupulously conscientious and honest".

The body of United States Senator A. O. Bacon was brought back to Macon for burial on February 19th following his death in Washington on February 14, 1914. All public buildings were draped for

the funeral, and his body lay in state overnight in the auditorium. Services were held in Christ Church with interment in Rose Hill Cemetery. It was Senator Bacon who had given the land for the Masonic Home and later for Alexander III school. However, in the words of an editorial that appeared in the *Telegraph* "his chief claim to distinction and to the gratitude of his countrymen is to be found in his wise conservatism in the midst of an era of reckless legislative experiment, and his unwavering devotion to the bed-rock principles set forth in the Constitution of the United States". Provisions of Senator Bacon's will set forth a seventy-five acre tract bordering the Ocmulgee for a park known as Baconsfield, a memorial park to his "ever lamented and only son". The gift was to become effective upon the death of his widow and his only surviving daughter, Mrs. Willis B. Sparks, and with it went $10,000 in Macon Railway and Light Bonds to be used to improve the grounds. On July 16, 1913, when Senator Bacon was for the last time elected to the Senate, he became the first United States Senator to be elected under a new federal provision providing for direct vote in electing senators.

On September 20, 1914, Colonel Isaac Hardeman died. Colonel Hardeman, who had an outstanding war record, had served as first commander of Camp Macon, No. 1477, United Confederate Veterans, after its organization in 1902. He was also a highly reputed lawyer.

Henry Horne died in Milledgeville on December 29, 1914, at the home of his brother whom he was visiting. He had served once as mayor of Macon and had been instrumental in the development of electric lights, street parks, and an opera house. It was he who had erected an opera house after the burning of old Ralston Hall on Cherry Street opposite the Dempsey Hotel.

M. H. Cutter died on January 1, 1916, after an eighty-three year residence in the city. His reminiscences about old Macon published in the *Telegraph* intermittently during these years provide an excellent source of city history.

Death came to Colonel William A. Huff on April 25, 1916, in the old home on Hardeman Avenue after eighty-four years. Born in the Rutland district of the county on March 1, 1832, he had first engaged in grocery business. For eight years following his first election in 1870 Colonel Huff had served as mayor of the city and later as a legislator. Through what the *Telegraph* called "his undaunted commercial genius" he brought big business to Macon and amassed for himself a huge estate. It was out of delay in the settlement of bankruptcy proceedings over this estate that grew his charges against Judge Emory Speer which led to the legislative investigation of Judge Speer, during which no grounds for action were found by the investigating committee. In his latter years he had almost single handedly kept alive the public library. To quote again from the *Telegraph* "To the upbuilding of

Macon, to the taking on of character, to the pointing of her destiny" Colonel Huff gave "more perhaps than any one man of his day and time."[10]

T. C. Burke, business man and resident of Macon since his birth in 1856, died on March 3, 1917. He had been instrumental in bringing about the establishment of St. Stanislaus in Macon.

Some others whose passing should be signalized include Major William Henry Ross, prominent business man, February 21, 1902; John J. Brantley, for many years an honored member of the faculty of Mercer University, June 7, 1902; James H. Blount, retired Congressman, March 8, 1903; Dr. W. E. Mumford, founder of the Georgia Industrial Home, August 12, 1904; Dr. Charles H. Hall, veteran physician, September 9, 1906; and Colonel Daniel G. Hughes, Confederate soldier and the man who had harbored escaping General Robert Toombs. Others are Honorable Clem P. Steed, lawyer and a leading figure in the history of Mercer University's law school, January 27, 1907; Dr. A. J. Battle, veteran educator and ex-president of Mercer University on September 30, 1907; Colonel C. D. Findlay, pioneer citizen and former alderman, September 29, 1912; and Addison R. Tinsley, for many years city treasurer, July 10, 1913.

Section 2
MACON'S WAR ACTIVITIES

Since the very beginning of the twentieth century and the Russo-Japanese War, uneasiness over the international political situation had been the invisible companion of every thinking American. In 1908 when Emperor Wilhelm of Germany defiantly announced that he was ready for war and that the sooner it came the better he would like it, this uneasiness became a sharply defined fear of conflict. By 1911 the situation with Mexico was beginning to take on a critical aspect. American troops stationed as a precautionary measure along the Texas border crossed into Mexico in threatening attitude as early as April, 1911, but only briefly. Macon felt the first definite tremors of the approaching struggle in November, 1913, when word came that the War Department was sending a special shipment of field equipment including five transport wagons and ammunition to the three National Guard Companies in existence in Macon at the time. During August, 1914, newspaper headlines screamed of Germany's open declaration of war followed in rapid succession by similar declarations from England, from Japan, from Russia, from Turkey. Reports of the situation in Europe were coming first-hand from individuals like Mrs. Robert Smith and her daughter Miss Ruth Smith (later Mrs. Ruffin Chestney) who, caught there by the outbreak of the war, had turned to helping the French nurse their wounded. The tension increased during the

10. Telegraph—Issue April 26, 1916.

next year with such incidents as the sinking of the *Lusitania* off the coast of Ireland on Friday, May 7, 1915, with a resulting loss of the lives of more than a thousand people. This was followed less than three weeks later by the blowing up of the *Nebraskan,* an American steamer. By September 5, 1915, all the world seemed to be involved in the war except the United States, and it became a question of how much the nation intended to endure. President Wilson was being besieged on both sides by the pacifists as well as by those who favored immediate intervention.

When action finally came, it was not from Europe, however; it was a fresh outbreak of the old Mexican border difficulties. On June 17, 1916, four hundred United States soldiers crossed the border into Mexico and began fighting. They were pursuing Mexican bandits who on the night of the sixteenth had attacked United States soldiers stationed at San Benito, Texas. This incident brought forth a call to the National Guard of the United States to prepare for service on the Mexican border. The order received by Governor Nat Harris just before midnight on June 18th was immediately transmitted to the commanding officers of the Georgia National Guard, top ranking one of whom was the governor's son, Brigadier General Walter A. Harris. This summons led to the immediate setting up of Camp Harris.

I. Activities Centering Around Camp Harris

On June 19th Macon was announced as the mobilization center for the entire state which meant that about 5,000 men and about 1,700 mules and horses would soon begin to arrive in the city. Immediate provision had to be made for the reception of these units, and at a meeting of the County Commissioners and the membership committee of the Chamber of Commerce, a nine man committee was named to secure $6,500 that would be needed to set up a camp. The committee made up of Chairman E. W. Stetson, R. L. McKenney, J. A. Flournoy, Eden Taylor, Jr., Guy E. Paine, J. B. Riley, Dr. Holmes Mason, H. B. Erminger, Jr., and R. C. Corbin at once asked for bids for equipment to be located on the site of the Mobilization Camp of the National Guard which had previously been set up at Crumps Park in 1915. The historic spot on which the camp was made was the site of the recently burned Confederate Laboratory, 140 acres of land owned by the Central of Georgia Railroad just opposite the now discontinued Crumps Park station. Units on which bids were asked included a storage warehouse, fifty-five kitchens, eighteen sinks, twenty-one bath-houses, and two hundred fourteen tent floors.

Georgia was told to prepare one brigade consisting of three regiments of infantry, one squadron and one troop of cavalry, one battalion of field artillery, and one field hospital. General Harris had three Macon majors on his staff—Cooper D. Winn, Jr., as adjutant, C. McAllister

Isaacs as quartermaster, and Dr. C. C. Harrold. The Macon units comprising the Second Regiment were the Volunteers under Captain Sidney L. Conner, the Hussars under Captain J. H. Palmer, the Floyd Rifles under Captain E. Julian Peacock, Jr., and the newly formed Machine Gun Company under Captain Boyce E. Miller. Colonel J. A. Thomas commanded the Second Regiment. The Macon companies pitched camp first on June 22nd, but a heavy rainstorm that night routed all but fifty men of the newest company who had tents. As an odd coincident, it had been in June, 1846, just seventy years before, that Macon soldiers had been called for military service in Mexico. On July 2, 1916, the Second Regiment of the Georgia National Guard made up of 1,172 men and 53 officers, in a seven-hour ceremony, was mustered into federal service by Major W. E. Welch of the regular army. The ceremony consisted of a roll call by companies, and at the end of each company's roll, Major Welch announced, "Each of you having answered to his name, I formally declare you to be in the service of the United States government."

In the city four young men, Basil Wise, Miller White, Roland Neel, and John Harris, had issued an invitation to citizens interested in forming a group of volunteers, to be ready if the President issued a call for more men or to serve as home guards, to meet at the Armory on June 26th. This followed a plan used in 1898 for the Spanish-American War. Judge John P. Ross was elected chairman of the meeting, and James L. Wimberly was secretary. The city was busy, too, with plans for a huge preparedness parade to be held on July 4th, and Dr. Holmes Mason was general chairman of this.

"Linking the present with the past and making history for future generations, 10,000 souls in their tramp, tramp, tramp through Macon's historic streets, rumbled a mighty voice of approval to the proposal that the army and navy of the United States be placed upon such footing as to protect and preserve American traditions, American ideals, and American principles",[11] said the local newspaper of this Independence Day parade. It took more than an hour to pass the reviewing stand at Second and Cherry where Governor Harris watched it. A crowd of an estimated 40,000 had an opportunity to watch another feature of the day, a tableau called "America, the Spirit of Preparedness". It was presented in the park at the intersection of Mulberry and First Streets for the purpose of raising money to buy a flag for the Second Regiment. Mrs. Grant Fuller represented America in the pageant. At its conclusion, Governor Harris presented the flag.

Rains lasting for about a week continued to deluge the new camp, now formally named Camp Harris by Adjutant General J. Van Holt Nash in honor of Governor Harris, and the rain coupled with poor

11. Macon Telegraph—July 5, 1916.

food were two complaints of the incoming soldiers. On the day after the parade a committee of Macon women headed by Miss Estelle Zettler provided 200 picnic baskets to give the soldiers a change of fare. Exaggerated reports of conditions at the camp brought an inspector from the inspector general's office department who condemned all out of date equipment including tents, cots, canteens, mess tins, and cups. This, of course, delayed the attempts to get the brigade ready for travel. By July 31st the camp had reached its maximum strength, and only poor food, mosquitoes, and the desire for action continued to plague the men. In September the entire brigade with the exception of the artillery who were practicing on the rifle range at Holton engaged in a sham battle on the old Birch property near the city.

It was with mingled feelings of relief and anxiety that on October 1st the artillery battalion was alerted to leave by train on October 4th for El Paso. The Fifth Regiment from Atlanta left about ten days later, and "Macon's Own", the Second Regiment, moved on October 22, 1916. Three days later Camp Harris was deserted except for the quartermaster corps and seven men of the hospital corps left behind.

Governor Harris accompanied Adjutant General Nash to Texas in November, and during his visit to Camp Cotton at El Paso he delivered a Thanksgiving Day address. The Mexican situation had eased to a point where the presence of a large body of troops seemed unnecessary so in early January, 1917, City Council passed two resolutions, one requesting the War Department to allow the Second Regiment to come home and another to present a city medal to each soldier and officer in the regiment upon his return. The War Department replied that the decision about homecoming was up to the commanding general. Finally in March news of the regiment's expected homecoming reached Macon, and the city welcomed the soldiers on March 29th with a large barbecue. Afterwards the promised medals were pinned on by fifty young ladies of the city. A new order on that date rescinded a previously ordered mustering out because hostile relations with Germany had almost reached their climax. The men were ordered to Camp Harris but were allowed to go home on furlough first. At the actual declaration of war, many of these men were sent to stations to guard public utilities, as did the men ordered to guard the Macon waterworks.

An interesting bit of Second Regiment history was the playing of the "Old Gray Bonnet" when the soldiers first reported to Camp Harris in 1916. The tune had caught the fancy of Band Master C. W. Dean in 1909, and the Macon Guardsmen had sung it for the first time under his direction when they were on the troop train en route to their encampment at Chickamauga Park during that year. It became the theme song first of that regiment, and later when the regiment was somewhat divided with the organization of the 151st Machine Gun Com-

pany it remained the favorite tune of the 121st Infantry of the Dixie Division.

II. Macon's Participation in the First World War

A—The Start of Camp Wheeler.

While the Camp Harris soldiers were in Texas, it became evident that war with Germany was almost a certainty, and in January, 1917, Major General Leonard Wood came to Georgia looking for a site for a permanent military camp. Hearing of his arrival, a Chamber of Commerce committee headed by Guy E. Paine as chairman and including W. T. Anderson, Milo B. Medlock, and W. E. Small with Mayor Bridges Smith invited him to come to Macon to investigate possible locations near the city. The committee had selected for its first choice an area in the Bloomfield section between Rocky and Tobesofkee Creeks as having the thre requisites: 1, availability to railroad facilities; 2, good climate; and 3, a strategic spot containing 1,000 to 1,500 acres away from any possible point of attack. Major General Wood sent Colonel E. T. Winston, commandant of Fort McPherson, to inspect the site in late January, and he pronounced it ideal.

Here matters rested on April 6, 1917, when the House of Representatives at 3 A.M. passed a bill already passed by the Senate declaring the United States at war. In rapid succession the city held a mass meeting at the auditorium led by Judge William H. Felton at which time a resolution backing up the President was passed; the Home Guard idea was revived by Frank H. Powers, D. Witman, and Harry C. Robert; and sixty-five girls joined the Girls' National Honor Guard, electing Miss Sara Tinsley as their chairman.

On April 28, 1917, Congress passed a bill of conscription requiring the registration of all males 21 to 30 years of age inclusive. June 5th was set as the date of registration, and a six man central registration board to plan for the execution of provisions of the new draft law was set up by the mayor. It included H. R. Brown, chairman; W. E. Mobley, Walter T. Johnson, Dr. E. P. Frazier, J. S. Milner, and Isaac Herman. Registration day saw a total registration of 5,964 men, of whom 4,828 were city registrants, and 1,136 were from the county. Of that number fifty-two were aliens although only five were listed as enemy aliens. A. T. Small, Jr., was the first man registered.

Meanwhile about two weeks earlier it was announced that Macon would get a camp, and on May 23rd, Major General Wood, commander of the Southeast and acting chief of staff of the United States Army, arrived in Macon to make final choice of a location. The general visited the Bloomfield area, Holton, Swift Creek grazing fields, the Massey-Solomon property, the Gantt property in the Mikado area,

and Holly Bluff. At night he addressed a packed house at the Grand at a meeting presided over by J. A. Streyer. After an introduction by Judge Emory Speer, he spoke on the reasons for going into the war, of the fallacy of American historians in teaching that Americans are born soldiers, and of the need for compulsory training. In closing he said, "We have great strength, but it is like a gold mine in Alaska during a panic on Wall Street. The gold may be there, all right, but it does not keep us from going broke on the exchange. We are non-aggressive, but we must be prepared to do or die in defense."[12]

Holly Bluff, property of Harry Stillwell Edwards, was the site chosen, and on May 27th when the location was announced, it was said that the camp would house two divisions of 60,000 men. The government required the extension of light lines, water mains, and a railroad branch line to the camp, and it announced that it would let contracts at once so that the camp would be ready for use by August 1st. The three Macon men who had figured prominently in the efforts to have the camp located at Macon were Guy E. Paine, J. A. Streyer, and Glen Toole of the Chamber of Commerce.

Final approval of the Macon camp site was announced by Secretary of War Newton D. Baker on June 21st, and Major C. F. Dalton with Captain Coffin of the Adjutant General's staff arrived in Macon to lay out the camp shortly afterwards. Soon the city learned that the proposed camp would cost it a total of $215,000 which would include rental fees on land for five years, extension of utilities, and the paving of an access highway. When official go-ahead signal was given on June 29th, a previously appointed committee consisting of Guy M. Paine, J. A. Streyer, and R. J. Taylor began at once to close options and secure leases on land. R. L. McKenney was appointed to look after paving. The finance committee headed by R. J. Taylor quickly raised $40,000 to cover rental fees on land. On July 14, 1917, Gabriel R. Solomon, a former Maconite who headed an Atlanta construction firm, arrived to become supervising engineer.

The War Department on July 15th chose Camp Wheeler as the name for the Macon camp and announced that National Guard troops from George, Alabama, and Florida would mobilize there. The choice of the name Wheeler followed an established policy of naming camps in honor of military heroes. Lieutenant General Joseph Wheeler was a native Georgian, born in Augusta on September 10, 1836, and a graduate of West Point Military Academy. He served in the Confederate army, receiving three wounds during his service. Later he was a congressman from Alabama, fought in the Spanish-American War, and served prominently in the military administration of the Philippines.

W. Z. Williams Company of Macon was awarded the contract for building the camp, and Major Walter I. Henwood, construction

12. Macon Telegraph—May 24, 1917.

quartermaster, arrived in late July to join supervising engineer Solomon who later went to the west coast to superintend the construction of nine large military contracts there. About 2,000 men were engaged in the building of the camp. Major General F. J. Kernan who was appointed first camp commander made his initial inspection of it on August 25th, and Colonel A. P. Gardner, a wealthy former Massachusetts congressman who had resigned to enter military service, arrived to become adjutant. General Kernan moved out to the camp on August 28th, and three days later a group of 200 reserve officers from Camp Jackson arrived and were billeted at the hotel over the week-end when a part of them went to Camp Harris as replacement officers and a part came to Wheeler. Troops began arriving on September 5th.

B—The 151st Machine Gun Battalion

In late June, 1917, troops began pouring into Camp Harris, many of them from stations where they had been guarding railroads, ports, and utilities since the declaration of war. Three Macon companies, the Volunteers, the Hussars, and the Floyd Rifles, all from the old Second Georgia Infantry—were selected to form the 151st Machine Gun Battalion in August, 1917. This battalion was to be one of two such battalions of the 42nd Division, a unit of National Guard soldiers that was being readied at Camp Albert L. Mills, Mineola, Long Island, for immediate service in Europe. On August 25th these Georgia National Guardsmen were drafted into the United States Army, and just before their departure from Macon, the 151st marched to the headquarters of General Harris, their former commanding officer, for a farewell message. Major Cooper D. Winn was battalion commander, and reaching full strength of 591 officers and men, the 151st left Macon by train on August 29, 1917, and on September 1st joined the 42nd or, as it was more popularly called, the Rainbow Division. (The name Rainbow Division had come from the commander, Major General W. A. Mann. While in Washington he was pointing out that the men in the division came from the Atlantic to the Pacific in an arc shaped area, and someone remarked that he had a regular rainbow. The word appealed to his imagination as a term synonymous wih hope, and it began to be used as the division name.) After two months of intensive training, the Rainbow Division including the 151st Machine Gun Battalion embarked for France on the U. S. Transport *Agamemnon* on October 29, 1917. This battalion has been called "the only representative Georgia unit to serve in the fighting in France."[13]

From the time of its arrival in France until the Armistice the battalion engaged in combat with the American Expeditionary Forces.

13. Macon's War Work, Edited by George Sparks.

It participated in four major engagements, received many citations for its glorious service, and suffered heavy casualty losses. After the cessation of hostilities it became a unit in the American Army of Occupation. In mid-April, 1919, the battalion embarked on the USS *Minnesota* for home, and the story of its arrival is treated separately.

C—The War and Macon.

1. Happenings at Wheeler.

On September 18, 1917, Military Police were stationed in Macon for the first time. An officer from Camp Wheeler, Captain "Dick" Russell, had charge of the men who were quartered at Central City Park. The soldiers who were first entrained at Camp Wheeler, largely National Guardsmen from Georgia, Florida, and Alabama, were formed into the 31st Division, and this division received its first drafted soldiers on October 15th. It contained the remainder of the Georgia Brigade which had been sent to the Mexican border, so many of its officers and men were from Macon. General Kernan, first division commandant, was sent overseas almost immediately after assuming leadership of the unit, and Brigadier General J. L. Hayden took his place. One of the first duties of the new commandant was to review the soldiers of the division in a parade honoring the daughters of General Joseph Wheeler for whom the camp was named. They were the Misses Lucy and Annie Wheeler of Wheeler, Alabama; Mrs. W. J. Harris of Cedartown, Georgia; and Mrs. Gordon Buck of Pelham Manor, New York. His son who was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Coast Artillery Corps stationed in Hawaii cabled his regret at being unable to attend.

During the latter part of November, 1917, an epidemic of measles broke out at the camp, and many cases of pneumonia developed following it. Criticism of the camp's hospital facilities became so prevalent when the death rate grew alarmingly high that the army ordered an additional forty-four nurses, to increase the nursing staff to sixty-five, and an additional five doctors. Surgeon General William Gorgas arrived on November 23rd for a camp inspection and immediately declared the base hospital thoroughly competent to handle the situation. In his report on November 29th he spoke of the sixty recent deaths there as a possible beginning of an epidemic of "septic pneumonia". Deaths continued for a short time at the rate of six or eight a day, but as the epidemic of measles waned, the death rate dropped. To cooperate with Camp Wheeler at the suggestion of the report of General Gorgas, Dr. C. L. Williams, First Assistant Surgeon of the United States Public Health Service, was named City Health Officer to replace the old Board of Health.

Toward the last of December 1500 acres of land near Camp Wheeler

were condemned by the government for use as an artillery range, and a remount station had been set up at Mogul, a short distance from the camp station. A cloudburst struck Camp Wheeler on January 11, 1918, and more than a hundred tent floors were covered with water. One soldier was killed in the collapse of a corral, and all light and power lines were crippled. The flood was followed by near zero weather, and soldiers who tried to return to their water-logged tents found the floors coated with ice.

On January 14, 1918, city flags were ordered to fly at half mast in tribute to Major A. P. Gardner, first camp adjutant, who had recently requested a reduction in rank from colonel in order to get overseas duty. Major Gardner had developed flu from exposure with his men on the Rifle Range and had died of pneumonia.

Secretary of War Newton D. Baker arrived in Macon on February 17, 1918, accompanied by three army surgeons including again General Gorgas. Secretary Baker praised the camp and assured General Hayden of his satisfaction that the men of the Dixie Division, the name adopted by the 31st, were in good hands.

On March 15, 1918, Major General Francis H. French relieved General Hayden as commandant of the Dixie Division and served for two months until May 16th when Major General LeRoy S. Lyon took his place after he was transferred to Camp Jackson. The battalion left the Macon camp on September 1, 1918, under command of General Walter A. Harris who was acting for General Lyon who had preceded the division overseas. Upon its arrival in France the Dixie Division was broken up for replacements to other units.

After the departure of General Lyon, the camp was commanded through the remainder of the war by Brigadier General Edward Anderson. In October a lighter type of influenza called Spanish influenza caused a revival of concern both in the city and at the camp. Gauze masks were required to be worn by groups of incoming new soldiers, and other precautionary measures were immediately adopted. While the death toll in the city far exceeded that of the preceding winter, there was no repetition of the terrifying death lists from the camp of the winter before.

2. Efforts Toward Conservation.

Two years before the actual declaration of war, Macon with the state realized the size of the food problem that was to face the nation, and on October 24, 1914, a mass meeting at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium resulted in the pledging of forty-two farmers to reduce their cotton acreages and to plant more wheat, oats, and food crops. In May, 1917, when people were being urged to plant war gardens, Case-Fowler Lumber Company distributed 50,000 plants and many packages of seeds to its workers. Later on October 12, 1917, food conserva-

tionists from all over the state met in Macon to map out a food saving campaign under the Hoover plan. Mrs. R. L. Berner was chairman of the Bibb County Hoover Food Conservation Committee. "Save the food and win the war" was the slogan adopted by this meeting. The final food conservation meeting was held on February 27th. Governor Dorsey opened the meeting of 3,000 volunteer workers in the food drive.

Some other conservation activities were aimed at the saving of fuel and of electricity through such moves as lightless nights, the first one occurring on December 20, 1917. At first only Thursdays and Sundays were so observed with the shutting off of all outside signs and inside store lights except those needed for safety, but as the fuel shortage grew more acute, it was extended to cover every night. By December 30th Fuel Administrator J. L. Jesup was so besieged for purchase permits that his office was kept open for two hours on Sunday, and on January 1st the administrator assisted by Professor R. W. Edenfield issued 2,590 coal purchase permits. Another effort in the same direction was the observation of daylight saving time which went into effect for the first time in Macon on March 31, 1918. In conjunction with this fuel saving drive, three Macon mills—Payne, Bibb No. 1, and Manchester—closed on January 18th for five days in accordance with orders from the nation's Fuel Administrator, H. A. Garfield. Later jitney buses began to operate on street car routes between scheduled cars to replace the street cars discontinued because of the fuel cut. They operated on both the Vineville and the Houston Avenue lines.

3. Local Efforts to Improve Soldier Welfare.

Before the completion of Camp Wheeler and the arrival of the first soldiers there, Macon was planning for the well-being of the soldiers. Reverend R. E. Douglas was named chairman of a community committee for this work, Milo B. Medlock was named chairman of the executive committee of the body, and E. G. Kingsbury who had been selected by the War Department to be athletic instructor at Wheeler, was made secretary of the community committee. A few days after Medlock was named, he was replaced by W. D. Anderson because of the demands of his work with the food conservation program. This committee was called the Soldiers' Welfare Committee, and it was behind every effort to make the lives of the men at Wheeler pleasanter and smoother.

Also before the soldiers arrived, the Rotary Club had pledged $1,800 to provide suitable club rooms in the city, and they leased the old Commercial Club headquarters over the Western Union on Cherry Street for this purpose. Closely following the action of the Rotarians was the Y.M.C.A. drive for $30,000 to be used in work with soldiers.

R. L. Anderson and R. F. Burden were two of the leaders of this drive for funds.

In July, 1918, the Civil Service Commission set its approval on the showing of Sunday movies in spite of the opposition of the Macon Ministerial Association which had tried to press the closing of the movies and of the "places of refreshment" open to soldiers on Sunday. The Commission stipulated that proceeds from Sunday movies were to go for charity, and for a time at least they were used to aid the fund for fatherless French children.

Many organizations aided the camp directly. The Red Cross and the Knights of Columbus maintained service buildings there; the Y.W.C.A. operated a Hostess House; the American Library Association set up a modern library; the Commission on Training Camp Activities provided various kinds of recreational leaders; and other organizations that made less spectacular but equally important contributions were the National War Work Council, Welfare Rooms in Macon, the Salvation Army, and the Jewish Welfare Board.

One of the most active of the wartime organizations was the 151st Machine Gun Battalion Auxiliary which sent hundreds of packages overseas, established a bed in Military Hospital No. 1 in France at a cost of $600, and helped in many other ways. Mrs. J. M. Cutler was president of the auxiliary, and other officers were Mrs. Cooper Winn, vice-president; Mrs. Minnie A. Harris, secretary; and Mrs. Boyce Miller, treasurer.

4. National Fund Drives.

The first Liberty Loan Drive of this war was organized locally on May 29, 1917, by L. P. Hillyer, chairman, and was successful. In October, 1917, Macon entered upon an intensive second Liberty Loan Drive. The city's quota was set at $650,000, and J. D. Crump who was chairman for this drive had the week beginning October 21st declared Liberty Loan Week. Automobiles went out to Camp Wheeler to bring 500 soldiers in to church. Church bells all over the city rang together, and "Millions for Macon" became the slogan of the drive. By the end of the week, the city had subscribed $1,115,000.

The third Liberty Loan Drive was introduced on March 12, 1918, with a rally at the City Auditorium. In the interest of this third drive John Burke, treasurer of the United States, stopped briefly in the city as the guest of George B. Clarke, banker. R. F. Burden was named chairman of the drive with W. E. Dunwody, sales chairman. A huge parade on April 9th staged by the Dixie Division served both to push the drive and to open the first divisional maneuver of any training camp operating at the time. Led by a one hundred piece band, claimed to be the largest ever assembled in the South, the fifteen mile column of soldiers took six hours to pass a given spot. Governors Hugh M.

Dorsey of Georgia and Charles Henderson of Alabama were on hand to watch the troops march out of Macon. They camped the first night at the site of the now abandoned Camp Harris and later at Echeconnee and at Jackson's Mill in their week's absence from camp. On April 17th comedian Charlie Chaplin made a personal appearance at the Grand to sell bonds. Through an error Macon's quota in this drive was set at $1,906,200. This figure was later cut to $1,429,650, and this amount was over-subscribed as was the original one when the final sales total reached $2,025,000.

Before the next big loan drive, the government had started a campaign to push the sale of War Savings Stamps. In Macon on June 25th about 15,000 negroes from all parts of the Sixth Congressional District gathered and staged a War Savings Stamp parade.

An army of women workers braved the cold rain of September 29th to open the fourth Liberty Loan drive with a colorful parade. Each worker marched past a stand in the park on Third Street opposite the Dempsey Hotel and paused to ring a Liberty Bell suspended there. Bibb's quota in this drive was $2,872,000. Again the drive was over-subscribed with a total of $3,500,400. Less than two months later Troup Howard served as chairman for the United War Work drive to provide for soldiers now out of the trenches but still a long way from home. It opened on November 13, 1918, and Bibb County's quota of $85,000 was topped by a total of slightly more than $91,000. One final effort called the Victory Loan drive with Jesse B. Hart as chairman opened on April 27, 1919, and there was so much enthusiasm to put this drive over before the arrival of the Macon battalion that it was rapidly over-subscribed.

5. Expanding Program of the Red Cross.

Macon's Red Cross activities began before the start of the war with a class to train volunteer workers. About a week after the close of this course, Mrs. Fannie Lyttle Macauley, author of "Lady of the Decoration", spoke to the Macon chapter on Red Cross work overseas. Red Cross classes continued, its membership increased rapidly, and on April 11, 1917, the working personnel was greatly expanded under the dual chairmanship of Mrs. Fort E. Land and W. E. Dunwody. One of the most interesting of the early activities of this group was a sort of living picture of Red Cross workers administering aid to soldiers, which was presented in the windows of the old Union Dry Goods Company, now Davison's. The making of surgical dressings became one of the most vital activities of the organization. On June 17, 1917, a drive for members began under the chairmanship of J. B. Riley and was highly successful. During August the Vineville auxiliary of the chapter formed a knitting circle.

As the chapter grew in size the scope of its work enlarged proportionately, and on October 13th J. D. Crump was elected chairman

of the Macon Red Cross chapter. Another vigorous drive for membership increase opening in December, 1917, and led by Eugene Anderson resulted in the addition of 3,000 members to the 1,700 already enrolled. In early January, 1918, Mrs. Judith Wiley, a registered nurse of wide experience and a valuable worker in the Macon chapter, left the city to go to France for Red Cross work. The chapter took over the top floor of the Grand Building for executive offices, and shortly afterwards a gift of $500 from Dr. John Alton Harris of New York in memory of his deceased wife, Valeria Lamar Harris who was formerly from Macon, enabled the fitting of a model Red Cross workroom in the new headquarters.

The next Red Cross drive, opened with a parade on May 18th, was to obtain a $50,000 service fund. T. D. Tinsley was chairman of this drive which netted a total of $66,000. In late summer the Macon Motor Corps, of which Mrs. Randolph Jaques, Jr., was captain, enrolled in the motor corps branch of the national Red Cross, and so the activities of the local chapter continued to expand. This section has not attemped to chronicle either the contributions made by the Red Cross or the names of those many Macon persons who gave so generously of their time and money to the work of the great organization, but instead to describe its enlarging program during the war years.

6. Other Marks Made on the City by the War.

Before the outbreak of the war with Germany, the Bibb County Board of Education had begun to consider the advisability of setting up a program of military training in the high school. Its first recommendation was for an optional course in military tactics to be offered. However, with the beginning of hostilities, the Board on May 10, 1917, adopted a report of the committee on military training requiring that some form of such training be added to the list of subjects taught. The committee suggested the Wyoming plan which would require all male students to attend military training classes unless they were physically disqualified. Under this plan, the government would furnish all guns and ammunition, the students would have their own student officers, there would be a girl sponsor for each company, and the boys would be trained in rifle fire, wall scaling, and given annual encampments. The report was made by M. Felton Hatcher, and Judge A. L. Miller and Colonel C. M. Wiley both made enthusiastic endorsements. By October of the same year the sight of Lanier High School students drilling on Daisy Park across Forsyth Street from the school was a common one. As a further step in the student training program, Mercer University was also selected for a military training school, and the Mercer Training Corps was established on October 2, 1918.

Macon became the scene of a different type of wartime training in

December, 1917, when a balloon school, reported to be the second largest in the United States, leased the Willingham Building on Poplar Street for general headquarters and classrooms, the Hotel Olympia on Second Street as barracks, and a vacant lot next to the gas company's plant as a flying field. The trainees were also to practice parachute jumping. By January 25th balloons from the school were making daily ascensions. While no airplane training was done in Macon during these war years, the city did convert the center of the race track at Central City Park into a landing field for daily cross country flights, and the first planes landed there on August 1, 1918.

The Mary Hammond Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution planned one of their major contributions to war work in October, 1917, when they voted to send an ambulance to France. On October 31st the chapter put out a special "War Relief Edition" of the *Macon Telegraph*, and funds from it helped with the purchase of the ambulance which was presented to the Dixie Division on June 14, 1918. Mrs. Charles Akerman was regent of the chapter at the time, and Mrs. Reeves Brown was chairman of the executive board.

It is entirely understandable in the face of such evidence of patriotic activity by the city that there was a complete lack of interest amounting finally to actual hostility, in a proposed state-wide anti-draft meeting that was scheduled to be held in Macon on August 23, 1917. A request for the use of the City Auditorium as a place of meeting was unanimously denied by City Council who further denied the use of any city building for such purpose and called on the police department to prevent the occurrence of such a meeting inside the city. Appeal for the use of the Courthouse met with similar opposition on the part of the County Commmissioners, and the supporters finally obtained a vacant lot outside of town. On the eve of the meeting, though, its cancellation was announced purportedly because of threatening letters sent to Tom Watson, the scheduled speaker and an ardent exponent of the movement.

Five Germans who had escaped from an internment camp at Fort McPherson were captured just south of Macon, and a German war spy suspect was picked up in the city on a tip from a Jacksonville resident during the early days of the war. These incidents and such others as the finding of ground glass in sausage at Camp Wheeler on September 23, 1917, and in one sack of flour and three loaves of bread in a local restaurant on April 12, 1918, kept Macon alert to the possibility of subversive activities. The city had its vice problem, too, and shortly after the opening of the camp, W. E. Dunwody was named head of a fifty man committee to work toward its elimination.

A final registration for the draft was held in Macon on September 12, 1918. A total of 6,444 men between the ages of 18 to 45 registered.

However, because the war came to a close so shortly thereafter many of these registrants were not called into service.

The effect of the war on the city was most telling in the casualty lists. Deplorable as is the economic waste of war, it is the wasting of human life that cuts deepest. No accurate record of the wounded and the dead in this war could possibly be given in so short a city history, but it cannot close without the mention of at least a few. Corporal Jack Peavy of the 151st Machine Gun Battalion was the first Macon man to be listed as wounded in action. He was wounded on March 22, 1918. Three months later on June 11th, Captain Henry Lee Jewett Williams was killed in action, and he, too, was called the first Macon man to be killed in action. Captain Williams, son of the founder of Williams Sanitarium, was qualified as a minister of the Episcopal denomination to enter military service as a chaplain. He was an Oxford scholar, had served as an Episcopal Rector in Milledgeville for four years, and was teaching at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, at the outbreak of the war. However, upon his own request he was trained as an officer of the line and was serving in this capacity with the 326th Infantry, 82nd Division, at the time of his death.

Almost daily during the summer of 1918 the local newspapers carried long casualty lists. The 151st was engaging in several successive offensive drives beginning with the Aisne-Marne offensive and climaxing in that of the Meuse-Argonne, and its men were under heavy fire almost continuously. News of the death of Lieutenant Joseph N. Neel, Jr., reached Macon on October 3, 1918, in a cablegram from his brother Lieutenant Roland Neel. His death followed severe wounds received in the St. Mihiel drive on September 13th. Born in Macon on May 9, 1892, and educated largely in the schools of Macon and of Georgia, Lieutenant Neel was a partner in his father's clothing business at the outbreak of the war. He received officer's training at Fort McPherson and went overseas with the 227th Infantry of the 82nd Division, arriving in France on his twenty-sixth birthday. Wounded less seriously twice before he received fatal wounds, he had rejoined his company just five days before his death.

When Nisbet-Gresham School dedicated its service flag with 170 stars on October 27th, "Taps" was sounded for Captain Williams; for Lieutenant Neel; for Lieutenants James Allen Etheridge, Robert Harlan, Louis LeConte; and for Major James H. Blount. Another memorial service was that at Christ Church held in the late afternoon of the same day as a tribute to Captain Williams and to Private Chambers Bunting, son of the senior warden of the church who had died when a German shell smashed a machine gun pill box wounding three Macon soldiers who were also in it. Both men had been members of Christ Church. Judge C. L. Bartlett was the speaker for the occasion.

On November 3rd just a week before the Armistice, Colonel J. A. Thomas of the 121st Infantry was buried in Macon with full military honors. Colonel Thomas had died at sea of pneumonia on October 16th. A 1,000 man escort from Camp Wheeler accompanied his body. Just back of it walked his horse with the colonel's boots hanging over the saddle. The toes of the boots were turned in and the stirrups were thrown over his back.

Some idea of the number of Macon homes touched by war casualties may be gained from the records of the 151st Machine Gun Battalion with only 236 of its original 591 officers and men returning.[14] This was largely a Macon unit.

The precautionary health measures mentioned earlier in a discussion of the prevalence of pneumonia at Camp Wheeler were in operation at the time that Armistice negotiations began to be made. All theatergoers in Macon were required to wear masks during mid-October, and then orders were given for movies to be closed. Public schools closed on October 21st and were not scheduled for reopening until the very day of the Armistice. However, since children were dismissed early on that day they actually had more than two weeks of holidays because of the attempts to check the dreaded disease.

D—Celebration of the Armistice.

A sort of pre-Armistice celebration marked August 5, 1918, when bells, cannons, horns, and whistles told of Macon's joy over the successful beating back of Germans across the Aisne River and the capture of 8,400 enemy soldiers. In spite of the terrifying daily casualty lists, the news from Germany was generally encouraging, and it was evident that the war was drawing to a close. On November 8th the United Press put out a false report of the Armistice which served only to increase the tension with which Macon and the rest of the world awaited the news. On November 9th, unable to restrain themselves longer, the people of Macon laid preparations for a big victory jubilee to be held at 6 o'clock on the evening of the signing. Frank H. Powers was named town crier; Dr. Holmes Mason, chairman of the parade; Dr. W. G. Lee, chairman of railroad employees and red fire; Reverend R. F. Gibson, chairman of ringing of church bells; Mayor Toole, chairman of invitations to all organizations; F. Roger Miller, chairman of invitations to all colleges and high schools; R. L. McKenney, publicity chairman; Lane Mullaly, grand marshal; and W. M. Wortham, chairman of decorations of stores and windows.

The town went mad at two in the early morning of November 11th when the news of the approaching Armistice was first flashed as a certainty, and by the time of the actual signing—at six Washington and Macon time—every imaginable noise-making device from a fiddle

14. Macon's War Work, Edited by George Sparks.

to a cannon was being sounded while bonfires burned at Cherry and Cotton, at Cherry and Second, and in front of the *Telegraph* building. Mayor Glen Toole's proclamation made at once read:

"The time has come to celebrate. An Armistice has been signed. Our boys are victorious. Our enemies have been vanquished. Liberty is safe and peace, that lasting peace which all good people so much desire, will come to the people of the world and democracy will rule. Let everybody assemble at the Courthouse at 6:00 o'clock this afternoon to participate in a monster parade and celebration.

"Remember it is your victory, and no matter from what part of the city or what your station in life, it means as much to you as anyone else. Bring your flags, banners, horns, and all noise-making devices. Those that haven't any will be supplied at the City Hall.

"The merchants are requested to decorate their places of business, to light up their windows, and all street lights will be turned on as well as electric signs.

"Secret societies, labor organizations, colleges, and all other organized bodies are expected to participate and to put on patriotic stunts and floats.

"All churches are requested to ring their bells, all steam plants and railroads are requested to blow their whistles between 6:00 and 8:00 P.M."

The celebration that began before dawn went on all day and reached its height in a parade the like of which had never been seen in the city. A lady in white riding a horse used in a circus act at the fair and carrying a large American flag was supposed to head the parade immediately behind a mounted escort of Marshal Holmes Mason, Sheriff J. R. Hicks, and Deputy Sheriff Lane Mullaly; but she was pushed back in the congestion and in the spirit of the day good naturedly fell in farther along. Thousands of people were in the parade, and there were many kinds of placards, banners, and impromptu floats. Music was furnished by seven brass bands including the Royal Scotch Highlanders in costume.

In a *Macon Telegraph* editorial of November 11th titled "The Last Caesar Falls", the concluding sentence which is quoted below might well have been written in 1945, applicable as it is to the conclusion of a second war to unseat another Caesar: "A colossal problem faces the Western Democracies that have fought this good fight out to its imminent battle finish. They must punish and take toll of retribution and reparation from the suckling babes of a newborn European democracy. God grant that they may be as wise as serpents and as gentle as doves."

E—Return of the 151st Machine Gun Battalion.

In March, 1919, when the rumor of the return of the battalion that included so many Macon soldiers became a fact, the city asked the War Department that they be returned to Wheeler for demobilization. This request was denied because of the continuing abandonment of the camp, but approval was given to the idea of their returning to stage a Victory Loan Drive parade before their demobilization. It was announced that the battalion would leave Germany for France on March 29th and would arrive between April 10th and 20th. At once plans were laid with every organization and every individual in the city eager to cooperate. President Jesse B. Hart of the Chamber of Commerce set things moving, and J. D. Crump was elected chairman of a committee to prepare for the return of the soldiers. Chairmen of other committees appointed to assist included Dr. Holmes Mason, entertainment; Ben J. Dasher, "noise"; C. B. Lewis, parade; J. A. Mitchell, music; 151st Auxiliary, refreshments; Mrs. W. P. Coleman, quarters; J. A. Streyer, railroads; and Dr. W. J. Little, picture shows. A. R. Willingham, head of the finance committee, was aided by Joseph N. Neel and G. G. Hardeman, while E. G. Jacobs who headed the decorations committee was assisted by P. T. Anderson, B. S. Persons, H. E. Wilson, W. C. Marshall, George M. Sparks, and R. L. Clifton. City Council voted to spend $3,000 to help with the entertainment. General Walter Harris was chosen to head a delegation that would meet the men upon their landing.

Macon was thrown wide open to the soldiers when they arrived on May 9th, and the Victory Loan Drive that they were intended to inspire had already gone over the top. They were invited to be guests at the Chautauqua in the evening. Ten wounded men of the company who were stationed at Fort McPherson were brought from Atlanta especially for the occasion in charge of Charles H. Hall, chairman of the Red Cross Committee.

It was the most wonderful day the city had known in many a year, but it was not without its touch of sadness. In a service held in the park in front of the Volunteers' Armory on First Street, the plot of ground was dedicated to the men of the 151st who did not return. Rabbi I. E. Marcuson led the invocation that opened the simple services of dedication, Dr. T. D. Ellis made a prayer, General Walter A. Harris introduced by J. Ellsworth Hall gave an address, and Father Frankhauser pronounced the benediction. With the laying on of many wreaths and the raising of the auxiliary's service flag with its gold stars, the ceremony that made of the place a memorial spot was concluded.

Led by fifty Confederate veterans under the command of Colonel C. M. Wiley and escorted by cadets from Lanier High School, the

battalion made its final parade. In his usually humorous newspaper column "More Otherwise Than Wise" Johnny Spencer in one of his rarely serious columns the next day expressed the emotions of the people with these words:

"Biff Murphy says
If he didn't holler
Quite as much
And as loud
As he had intended doing
When the boys
Of the Machine Gun Battalion
Went by yesterday
It was because
He found he couldn't
Choke up
And holler at the same time."

III. The Closing of Camp Wheeler

Although the closing of Camp Wheeler extends into the years covered by the third section of this chapter, it is so clearly a war activity that it is dealt with under this heading.

On December 9, 1918, orders for the abandonment of Wheeler came through, and plans were made to have all men out by December 14th except the quartermaster corps including the salvage detachment, a total of about 1,500 men, and the base hospital. The city tried to have Wheeler named as one of the demobilization camps for the state, but since Camp Gordon and Camp Hancock had already been so designated the venture was unsuccessful. In mid-December a group of wounded soldiers arrived at Wheeler for a short stay, but by December 20th, only 3,000 men in all were on the camp grounds. Lieutenant Colonel J. A. Moss commanded the camp at that time.

During January the government turned back to farmers the land taken over for an artillery range between the camp and the Remount Station that had been established at Mogul. Some of the land was in Twiggs County. The sum of $75,000 was allowed property owners for rental and damage fees, and only the land around the base hospital was retained. Auction sales by the salvage company of the quartermaster corps sold 1,200 horses and mules from the Remount Station on January 14th and about 2,200 on February 10th. Faced with the expiration of the camp's lease on June 30th and the necessity for removing all buildings on the property within ninety days thereafter, the authorities announced that the government buildings would be sold for lumber on April 15th. So as quickly as it had sprung up, Camp Wheeler disappeared from the fields and the pine covered slopes. And there was no prophet to predict that less than a quarter of

a century later, like the legendary Phoenix, it would be recreated from its own dust to train another generation of soldiers.

Section 3

POST WAR PROGRESS

The post-war era has been called by someone the "terrific twenties", and the name is quite apt. These years saw a revival of activity of the Ku Klux Klan, the culmination of the civic club movement, an epidemic of such attention getting stunts as pole sitting and marathon dancing, a great surge of expansion in the development of air travel, a building boom, and finally an enlarging cycle of worry over economic conditions that led to attempted economizing, to mass unemployment, and at last to the most gigantic depression the country had ever witnessed.

I. Culmination of Some Pre-War Projects

Any report of Macon's progress after the close of the first World War must, of necessity, extend back into the war years as many of the achievements of this period had their inception during the war or just before it. In November, 1922, an article titled "Macon, Urba Futura" appeared in the *Georgia Cracker,* a student publication of the University of Georgia. It was one of a series of such articles diagnosing the ills of Georgia cities patterned after a series on the states running currently in a national magazine. It created quite a stir because of its attack upon the city's lethargy in all phases of potential greatness, hitting at its failure to complete such civic needs as the auditorium and the library, and sharply criticizing its stoppage of the progress of achievements begun just after the turn of the century. The article, by plan of the magazine, was unsigned, and it was several days before the identity of its author, A. B. Bernd, was learned. Then the city began to consider seriously the charges of one of its own citizens, who was active in civic affairs himself, and to begin in earnest the work of completing some of its pre-war projects. One of the most urgent of these projects was the provision of an auditorium large enough to meet the needs of the city.

A—The Building of the City Auditorium.

During the early part of the twentieth century, the demands for a public auditorium had been met with the remodeling of the City Hall, but almost from the start this place was inadequate for the large crowds that occasionally gathered in the city. When the Chautauqua of the South decided to locate in Macon, one of the conditions it set was that the city should provide adequate auditorium facilities. The remodeled depot served for the first year, and a bond issue on the

eve of the war provided $100,000 for a new building. There was some sentiment toward holding the money for a time until the fund could be enlarged, but after a debate over a suitable location, a lot on the corner of First and Cherry Streets was bought from Ben L. Hendricks in early 1917. A committee of W. T. Morgan, W. T. Anderson, Bridges Smith, and J. B. Riley, chairman, listened to proposals of sites in Chickamauga Park and in Washington Park, the latter to provide parking space for cars beneath the proposed building. But it chose instead a place which had once been a huckleberry swamp in the city's infancy. Later a lumber yard and planing mill called Enterprise Works located there, and it was succeeded by the Dixie Works. In the closing years of the War Between the States a match factory had stood there with the grounds around it utilized as a receiving station for such donated metals as bells, candlesticks, door knockers, and the like. Later all this was cleared away and the Park Hotel was built on the upper end of the lot during the eighties. The city did not at first buy the hotel, but only the unoccupied portion of the lot next to First Street. When excavation started for the new building, one wall of the hotel collapsed. There were about seventy-five guests in the thirty year old structure when one end of it sagged into the hole. After the unsafe portion of the hotel was condemned by Council, the city agreed to pay for removing it. The size of the building proposed for the lot had already been cut back because of a protest made by nearby property owners that a proposed encroachment to provide more building space would narrow Cherry Street and cut property values. Now the city saw a chance to obtain a larger building space and at the same time to make a fair settlement with Hendricks who had made no attempt to take action against the city. So a joint committee from the Chamber of Commerce and the city decided to enlarge the proposed $90,000 structure to one costing $350,000 capable of seating 6,500 people and to buy the hotel from Hendricks. A price of $40,000 was paid, and the title to the hotel land came into city possession on December 13, 1917. The first auditorium was a frame one of rather incomplete construction, and complaints were made about it from the first. The floor was cemented and the ceiling finished before the 1919 Chautauqua, but even this was a stop-gap measure. It was still the dream of the city to build a larger and better structure, and to this end the auditorium fund was increased by $13,000 from the sale of City Reserve properties in November, 1919. In March, 1920, the Chamber of Commerce submitted plans drawn by Fellheimer and Blair for a new structure with an enlarged seating capacity to be built as a memorial hall to the soldiers of the World War. An additional bond issue was proposed, but in July, 1920, after a study of questionnaires seeking public opinion on the matter the Chamber of Commerce committee headed by Guy E. Paine proposed the levying of a special tax to raise $600,000 and

the creation of an auditorium building commission to handle this fund. With city approval the August session of the Legislature passed a bill providing both of these things, and the commission thereby created included Ben J. Dasher, Guy E. Paine, R. F. Burden, T. J. Carling, Alex Block, Dr. W. G. Lee, and the mayor as an ex-officio member. The tax provided was a levy of one-fourth of one per cent for five or six years as necessary to finance the new auditorium. At the first meeting of the building commission held on September 15, 1920, the group voted to retain the present site of the auditorium and elected Ben J. Dasher chairman of the body with Dr. W. G. Lee as vice-chairman; Guy E. Paine, secretary, and T. J. Carling, treasurer.

In 1922 a petition of nearby residents called the old building "a fire trap and a menace to health". Still no action was taken until August, 1923, when the commission met to go over plans for the new building designed by Egerton Swartwout, nationally known designer of buildings. The Souther Ferro Concrete Company of Atlanta won the contract for building the new auditorium on April 17, 1924, at a figure of $444,274. When construction was started a few months later, the lumber and steel from the old building were given to Mercer University which paid for razing the structure. As it was completed in November, 1925, the auditorium finished in limestone and following Greek Renaissance style had the largest copper covered dome in the world. Its diameter of 152 feet 6 inches exceeded the Washington Capitol dome of 100 feet. The building, not including the terrace, was 175 feet square. The inside was finished in Georgia marble and had a downstairs seating capacity of 2,700. A relief design of festoons of peaches decorated the balcony rail. Over the proscenium of the stage hung a mural measuring 60 by 80 feet. Painted by Don Carlos DuBois assisted by Wilbur Kurtz, the scene depicted the outstanding events in city history from the coming of DeSoto and of the Christian religion to the advent of the World War. The memorial to Macon soldiers of all wars is signified in the machine gun scene. The central section of the mural traces the progress of Georgia industry beginning with the tillers of the soil, and arts and sciences are represented through the crests of Mercer and of Wesleyan.

On October 6, 1925, City Council named a permanent Auditorium Commission authorized to have charge of renting the building, handling all funds received and disbursed, and to sign all contracts. Named on the commission were T. J. Carling, Guy E. Paine, Dr. W. G. Lee, and R. F. Burden. They were chosen for terms of one, two, three, and four years respectively, the length of their terms being determined by lot at the first meeting of the group. The mayor, who was Luther Williams at the completion of the auditorium, was named as an ex-officio member. The only restriction on a member of this



The Municipal Auditorium
Drinnon Photo by Ralph Jones

commission is that he may at the time of his election hold no other office in the city government.

The Macon Art Association held its ninth annual exhibit in the new auditorium on November 16th, and there was a special program on its opening date, but there was an organ recital by Henry F. Seibert on November 23, 1925, that opened the program during which the auditorium was formally turned over to the city. Dr. Rufus W. Weaver of Mercer University gave the invocation; there was an informal address by Dr. W. F. Quillian, president of Wesleyan College; Ben J. Dasher, who had served as chairman of the building commission of the auditorium, then formally turned it over to Mayor Wallace Miller who accepted for the city of Macon and then delivered it to the Auditorium Operating Commission.

In May, 1922, an audit of the books of the building committee revealed that after payment of all outstanding bills there would be a fund balance of slightly more than $8,000, and this was spent to correct poor acoustics now apparent in the building and to install a better method of removing seats from the main floor. It had required a quarter century of effort to achieve the auditorium, but the building

stands today as a monument to those citizens who had a dream that would not die.

B—Completion of the Washington Memorial Library.

The origin of the Washington Memorial Library has already been traced. Mrs. Bellamy, its donor, was anxious that there should be no delay in its building, and plans for the structure were drawn before the war. But because of inability to secure certain necessary building materials, it was not until April 26, 1919, that actual construction got underway with the laying of the cornerstone in a ceremony conducted by Grand Master Robert J. Travis during a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Georgia. In addition to the Masonic ceremonies, Dr. T. D. Ellis offered a prayer, and Dr. Charles R. Jenkins made an address on behalf of the trustees of the library.

By March of the next year the building was outwardly finished. However, the funds were not sufficient to furnish shelves and other equipment or to complete the inside detail. The Art Association again pioneered by using the building for the first time for an art exhibit on May 18, 1921, but after this it continued to stand vacant. In March, 1922, the Junior Chamber of Commerce decided to unite the various organizations interested in the completion of the library. It invited representatives from the civic clubs and from the Parent-Teachers' Association and other interested citizens to meet with its members on March 16th to plan a drive to finish the library and to get it ready for operation. Mark Etheridge was chairman of this group, and the Junior Chamber of Commerce undertook its part of the job immediately by sponsoring a circus. Still the project dragged along until November, 1922, when the trustees began a move to put the now almost three years idle building to work. With $8,000 of the needed $14,000 in hand, A. B. Bernd was named chairman of a committee to lead a drive to raise the remainder of the library funds. Finally on November 28, 1923, the library and its facilities were opened to the public. There was no opening ceremony, and formal invitations were issued only to the Board of Trustees of the old Macon Public Library and to its librarians, Mrs. Daisy H. Sparks and Miss Martha Sparks. Miss Sally M. Akin, librarian, and her assistant, Miss Margaret Chapman welcomed visitors who were invited to register and withdraw books. Miss May Williams was the first of the 225 people registered on the opening night.

Two years later the Children's Room of the library, equipped by the Macon Lions Club, opened with formal exercises on October 4, 1925. Baldwin Martin, Lions Club president, made a presentation address. Dr. W. F. Quillian accepted on behalf of the Board of Trustees, and Miss Akin received the room on behalf of the library. Miss Helen Daughtry of Allentown became the first children's librarian.

C—New County Courthouse.

There had been much pre-war agitation for the building of a new courthouse, but it was not until 1919 that a bond issue provided funds for the construction of one. The Grand Jury for the November term of the Superior Court in February, 1921, recommended the erection of a new building on the site of the old one with a new jail to be built on top. The latter idea was unpopular with nearby merchants who threatened an injunction to prevent the jail's location there. But the County Commissioners requested plans carrying out that idea and, of the three sets submitted in June, 1921, chose those of Curran R. Ellis that provided for a three story building with a jail on the top floor. When bids were made in April, 1922, all were rejected because they exceeded the proposed expenditure of $400,000. So the Commissioners decided temporarily at least to cut off the jail. The contract was finally awarded in June, 1922, to the same company that built the auditorium, and completion was promised within eighteen months. It was not until September 2, 1924, however, that Charles W. Stroberg, chairman of the County Commissioners, signed papers formally accepting the four story building — the extra story was in reality a basement floor. Charles H. Garrett, solicitor general, was the first county official to move in, and he was followed closely by C. C. Anderson, county surveyor, and A. E. Barnes, stenographer for the Superior Court. This new building had its acoustic difficulties also. The courtroom echoed so badly that for a brief time until remedial steps could be taken crepe paper streamers were suspended from the ceiling to break the echoes.

After occupying the building for about a year, the Commissioners decided to accept the plans for the jail as originally drawn by Architect Ellis, and a contract for its construction at a cost of about $300,000 was let to a Cleveland firm in June, 1925. When finally completed more than a year later, the jail had room for 300 prisoners. Open house for inspection was held there on October 18, 1926, and on October 23rd ninety prisoners, five of them under death sentence, were moved without mishap from the old to the new jail.

D—Two Unfilled Pre-War Dreams.

Not all of the ideas born in the expansive years before the war came to such successful completion. Perhaps no one factor explains their failure of achievement, but certainly a growing economic caution on the part of the people in general helps to account for it.

1. The Capital Is Not Removed.

With the end of the World War, the legislators from Bibb County again began their annual introduction of a capital removal bill into the State Legislature. As an example of the type of bill drawn up, the

act introduced in June, 1919, called for a popular vote on the question of removal, renewed the city's promise of Tattnall Square Park as a capitol site and of a mansion for the governor, and even set January 1, 1925, as the date for the change of locale. Shortly after this, S. C. Dobbs, president of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, appealed to the city to end the fight asserting that it served only to create disastrous dissension within the state, but Macon's answer was a promise of three million in cash to help finance removal. Atlanta's determined efforts aided by other opponents of the idea permanently kept the removal bill from coming to vote in the Legislature, and after the early twenties this project became a lost cause. For a number of years afterwards, when the Legislature was ready to entertain a motion to adjourn, someone as a jest would announce that no adjournment could be made without the consideration of a capital removal bill. Such a bill would then be introduced, numerous absurd amendments would be tacked on to it, and the session would end amid much hilarity.

2. The End of the Tourist Hotel.

A decade before the first World War, the idea of a large scale tourist hotel in Macon had been born in the minds of certain business men. One of these was Dr. E. P. Frazier who had planned such a structure where the Fredonia Apartments now stand on Bond Street but had changed his plans because of a lack of space. In April, 1921, a general plan for a tourist hotel was submitted to the Chamber of Commerce, and in November of that year the first definite steps toward such a hotel were taken when that body completed the organization of a holding company that would take over the W. B. Sparks property in North Highlands (near the Masonic Home) and would promote its development. There was a business recession during the latter part of 1921 effects of which were felt through 1922, and the idea remained dormant under the pressure of auditorium building and other projects until July, 1924, when a New York firm announced that it considered the 500 acre Sparks tract an ideal site and promised to lease and operate such a hotel if it were built. A month later a group of business men headed by Charles B. Lewis with P. T. Anderson, R. L. McKenney, and Dr. W. G. Lee from the Chamber of Commerce was chosen to decide the fate of the hotel which had by this time become a million dollar undertaking. These men favored the idea, and in January, 1925, the Chamber of Commerce adopted plans for the hotel with the expectation of having it ready for operation by January 1, 1926. A contract was signed by a committee headed by Harry Strozier with a firm that was to raise $600,000 through subscriptions. Upon the completion of the fund raising campaign in July, 1925, a total of $501,000 had been pledged. A picture of the proposed hotel designed by Thomas, Martin, and Kilpatrick of Philadelphia appeared in the July 16th

issue of the *Macon Telegraph*. P. T. Anderson, at the time president of the Chamber of Commerce, was named chairman of the organization board of stockholders, and in late July the Highlands Hotel Corporation applied for a charter. T. J. Carling was the corporation's first president, and after his death in March, 1927, he was succeeded by P. L. Hay. From the outset, the corporation had difficulties, and as early as February, 1926, its attorney was directed to sue some of the stockholders who had refused to pay their subscriptions. Finally this effort was abandoned, and the land which had belonged to the corporation was offered for sale. On June 13, 1929, all litigation involving the Highlands Hotel Corporation ended when a Richmond, Virginia, firm that had actually signed a contract to operate the hotel for twenty years was given a consent verdict for a fractional portion of the amount named in its breach of contract suit. Failure to materialize plans for financing its construction caused the abandoning of the idea on the very eve of the depression.

II. Other Outstanding Building Operations

In an editorial comment published in the *Telegraph* on April 2, 1924, and signed "Citizens Committee", the statement was made that growth and prosperity go hand in hand; that when progress ceases, stagnation sets in; and that the quickest and best way to build a city is from within. Judging from the major building projects already discussed and others that followed, there was little danger of stagnation in Macon during these years.

A—The Stadium.

The move toward a stadium for athletic events was begun by Mercer University during these years when the school had a football team that played such teams as Florida, Georgia, and Auburn each year. The drive toward building such an athletic field was approved by a group of a hundred business and professional men of the city in February, 1923. The Chamber of Commerce and the Lions Club were only two of the city's organizations that got behind the drive to build a stadium that would seat not less than 15,000. Finally City Council sanctioned the move and appointed a stadium commission of A. R. Willingham, H. C. Fowler, Harry Strozier, T. H. Halliburton, and M. E. Goode. This body after considering a location in Baconsfield and one in Central City Park chose a site on Gray's Hill behind Mercer University for the structure. A bond issue including among other amounts an appropriation of $100,000 for the stadium building passed with almost no opposition on April 14, 1924, and a new stadium commission of aldermen including M. E. Goode, R. E. Findlay, G. F. Gilleland, Sr., Mrs. C. C. Harrold, and S. L. Orr was given a go-ahead signal. Just after Mercer donated to the city land for its building, the contract

was awarded to R. H. Smalling's Sons in January, 1925. Original plans were slightly altered to cut costs, and the completed structure with a 12,000 seating capacity was turned over just four days after the July 14th deadline on which it had been promised. The city formally accepted the stadium with payment of final construction bills on August 11th. A permanent Centennial Stadium Commission was appointed by the mayor two weeks later and confirmed by Council. M. E. Goode was its chairman, and appointed with him to serve two years were Roy G. Williams and George F. Gilleland, while A. R. Willingham, T. H. Halliburton, and P. L. Hay were named for four year terms. The new stadium was christened on September 26, 1925, with a Mercer-Georgia football game. About 5,000 spectators heard a dedicatory prayer by Dr. Rufus W. Weaver, saw a parade, and listened to selections by the Central of Georgia band. Dr. W. G. Lee was acting chairman for the occasion. Judge W. H. Davis, chairman of the Mercer University Board of Trustees, presented the land on which the stadium stood to Mayor Williams who in turn presented it to M. E. Goode, and Dr. William Russell Owens made a brief address preceding the entrance of the Mercer band and the two teams.

B—Residential Building Developments.

During the third decade of the twentieth century several new residential sections of the city were opened for building. One of the first, although smallest, of these was the Beverly Place section in Vineville which was cleared in March, 1922. During the summer of 1924 Louis A. Tharpe held a big auction sale of lots on Vista Circle and Ingleside Avenue which helped to open that section at about the same time that Custis Nottingham was pushing the development of Shirley Hills. A year later a local realty company bought from the Jesuit Society, forty-two acres, the site of the burned Catholic college, which it planned to turn into a million dollar real esate development called Stanislaus after the name of the old college. Before the land was cleared for subdivision, the bodies of twenty-seven priests buried on the grounds were disinterred and removed to Spring Hill, Alabama, for reburial. First of the 102 lots created from this tract were sold on June 21, 1926, and nineteen of them brought a total of $83,500.

Another equally important residential development was the building of several large new apartment houses. The first of these was planned in 1922 by W. J. Massee and O. J. Massee, Jr., on a vacant lot on College Street purchased from Marion Erwin. This building, begun during 1924, became the eight story Massee Apartments. About a year later the Georgian Terrace Apartments were started on Georgia Avenue. Then during the summer of 1926 the historic old home on Mulberry Street, reputedly built in 1838 as a home for Dr. Robert Collins, later used by the Cherokee Club, and for eighteen years the

residence of Alex Block, was converted into the Block Apartments. (The most recent phase of its metamorphosis has been the 1947 conversion of it into the Professional Building.) The old Taylor home on Vineville Avenue at the head of Hardeman Avenue was razed in February, 1927, to make way for the Vineville Court units. A final one of these residence units that started during the twenties was the Terrace Apartments which were begun in June, 1928, with Fred W. Reichert, George B. Smith, and J. H. Starr listed as owners.

C—Miscellaneous Building Projects.

Shortly after the declaration of war in 1917, the Central Railroad began the building of a small new passenger station in Vineville on Holt Avenue. The next year, 1918, saw the Independence Day opening of the seventy-two room Terminal Hotel on the corner of Fifth and Cherry Streets and the beginning of a seven story office building on the site of the old Lamar-Taylor and Riley Drug Company on Cherry Street at Broadway. This structure, the Bibb Building, was built by the Bibb Realty Company composed of E. G. Jacobs, H. J. Lamar, J. T. Harrison, and T. A. Bardwell. On June 7, 1925, during a storm lightning struck the Bibb Building slightly damaging the elevator shed on top of it.

There was a drop-off of a half million dollars in the building figures for 1921 over the preceding year, but as later operations proved, this drop was only temporary. About 1921 a canning plant was built at Franklinton on part of the old Camp Wheeler property. The Continental Canning Corporation began operating here on May 19, 1922, and held open house on May 30th. It employed sixty workers at the start.

In 1924 the historic old depot at the corner of Broadway and Plum was torn down. From the balcony of this building Jefferson Davis had been introduced to the people of Macon. Here, too, the man who was destined to become the officer second in command to Davis in the Confederacy, Alexander Hamilton Stephens, had spoken in 1860 to introduce Stephen A. Douglas and John C. Breckenridge when they were candidates for the top posts of the United States government. Into this station had come four men who were, or were destined to become, chief executives — McKinley, Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson. In a remodeled state the old depot had housed the first audiences who thrilled to the performances of the outstanding artists brought to Macon by the Chautauqua. Now it was yielding to the march of progress, and in its place was a firm of wholesale grocers, Kingman and Everett.

In late December, 1925, the telephone company announced plans for a large expansion program that included the remodeling of its three story building at Second and Poplar Streets and the building of a four story annex to join it.

One additional large professional building was undertaken during the twenties by the doctors of the Middle Georgia Hospital in October, 1926. This was the $96,000 Doctors' Building on the corner of Spring and Pine Streets. Officers of the hospital at the time who were instrumental in its building were Dr. Charles C. Harrold, president; Dr. O. H. Weaver, vice-president; and Dr. Charles H. Richardson vice-president.

The Masons, oldest fraternal order in the city, were responsible for two new structures on Mulberry Street during the decade. The first of these was a Masonic Temple built across Mulberry Street from the Methodist church and opened on August 5, 1924. Two years later during the meeting of the 140th Grand Lodge of Georgia the cornerstone of a Grand Lodge on the corner of Mulberry and New Streets was laid. This stone had two sections; the one with the inscription of the Grand Lodge was placed on the Mulberry Street side of the building, and the one with the insignia and inscription of the Grand Chapter was placed on the New Street side.

III. Interesting Sidelights on the Municipal Government

A—The Civil Service Commission Is Abolished.

Macon had by a narrow margin elected an entirely new slate of city officers in September, 1917, and one of the first important acts of the new Council was a move to abolish the Civil Service Commission. This was no new idea, nor was it a criticism of the men who made up the commission at the time. Rather was it a thrust at the idea back of it. A new resolution to dissolve it was introduced in July, 1918, on the grounds that the body was an unnecessary expense to the city and involved the police and fire departments needlessly in politics. A committee was appointed to draw up a petition asking amendment of the City Charter through the abolition of the board, and the petition was unanimously approved by Council a year later. The bill as originally planned was hotly debated both locally and in the Legislature because of a clause that forbade firemen's joining a union that assumed the right to strike. The commission had its powers sharply curtailed during 1919 and 1920 by Council's deliberate failure to appropriate more money than the amount necessary for salaries of policemen and firemen. The 1920 Legislature passed the bill which went into effect on August 16th, thereby dissolving the commission which at that time included W. B. Chapman, W. R. Evans, and Julian F. Urquhart. Firemen who failed to turn in their union cards in compliance with that provision of the bill were threatened with salary stoppage, but they finally voted to surrender their charter and renounce their affiliation with the American Federation of Labor. New fire and police committees from Council were sworn in on

August 20th to control those departments of city government with B. F. Merritt made chairman of the police committee and Jesse A. Mitchell, chairman of the fire committee.

On February 4, 1920, the city finally received the deeds to Baconsfield, the gift of the late Senator Bacon. At once Council named a self-perpetuating Board of Managers for the park. Chosen on this initial board were Mrs. Willis B. Sparks, Mrs. W. P. Coleman, Mrs. H. M. Wortham, Mrs. P. L. Hay, Mayor Glen Toole, Dr. W. G. Lee, and John L. Anderson. This property was to become one of the most beautiful civic possessions.

B —Advocation of a New Form of City Government.

During 1921 a move toward the commission-manager form of city government began. A committee composed of Dr. C. C. Harrold, F. Roger Miller, and Chairman Charles H. Hall after much study submitted to the Legislature for approval a plan that called in part for a five man council, a city manager with entire power to appoint city officers and supervisors of employees without the advice of council, the abolition of both the Hospital Commission and the Waterworks Commission with retention of the Auditorium Commission, and the creation of a new Civil Service Commission to control the police and fire departments. It failed to pass both bodies of the Legislature, and the idea did not recapture the popular mind until July, 1925, when with General H. D. Russell and others pushing it, Council approved the idea and drafted a bill to the Legislature requesting that it be put to popular vote in 1927. This bill did not pass either, and in July, 1927, a new charter bill took its place. The new charter changes provided primarily for a limitation of a mayor's terms of office, an increase of $2,000 in the salary paid the mayor, the cessation of payment of an annual city subsidy to the waterworks, and the extension of powers of the recorder's court to cover all locally committed misdemeanors This charter change passed successfully and became a law on August 3, 1927, and by its provisions the colorful old Justice of Peace courts were abolished.

C—Efforts to Establish a Farmers' Market.

Another several times reversed action of city officials centered around the establishment of a farmers' market. Following the tearing down of the old City Market House just before the war, no provision had been made for market space for farmers who came to the city to sell their products. A curb market was suggested in 1920, so in answer to a petition of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Chamber of Commerce led by Mrs. W. C. Kilpatrick as committee chairman, Council set aside the north side of Poplar Street between First and Second Streets as a parking space for farmers with produce to sell. On July 17, 1920, the first day the curb market was to operate, a group of women marched

down Poplar Street carrying market baskets. Ironically they found that the farmers had completely sold out to hucksters and to restaurant and hotel operators, but they were not discouraged. Later the city rescinded its establishment of the curb market, and in November, 1926, urged by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Council leased the vacant lot on Oglethorpe Street, formerly the location of Findlay's Foundry, to be a market stand for peddlers. But even this lease was cancelled in December, 1927, with the promise to find a better location, and in April, 1928, the old curb market on Poplar Street came back into existence.

D—The Entrance of Women Into Politics.

Women in Macon entered the field of local politics for the first time in 1921. The election on September 21st during that year was the first occasion upon which women voted, and in this election Mrs. Charles C. Harrold was named to City Council from the Third Ward. She thereby became the first woman to hold a local Council post. In June, 1922, Mrs. Viola Ross Napier announced her candidacy for the Legislature on a dual platform of capital removal and pushing a widely advocated prison probe. Upon her election in September of that year she became the first woman legislator from Bibb County and one of the two first from the state.

E—Annexation Is Defeated.

During 1929 a joint City-County Consolidation Commission headed by T. H. Halliburton began the study of a plan to merge city and county government under one administration. The commission drew up a merger bill and presented it to the Legislature in July. City Council voted formal approval of the bill for the Bibb legislators. However, there was so much opposition that an annexation bill providing for the incorporation of five large country areas was introduced and passed as a sort of substitute measure. It required a vote by the residents of each area, and November 1st was set as the date for voting. Shirley Hills, Ingleside, Payne City, Bellevue, and Houston Avenue all defeated annexation by large majorities when the voting was held.

F—The First Public Inauguration.

The first formal inauguration of a mayor occurred during these years when on November 13, 1929, Mayor Glen Toole took the oath of office in a ceremony held at the City Auditorium. Sponsored by the Exchange Club, the affair began with a parade. W. P. Fleming, chairman of the Exchange Club's inauguration committee, was master of ceremonies. Representatives of more than a hundred civic, fraternal, and religious organizations, wearing full dress, were seated on the

stage and heard the administration of the oath of office by Judge Malcolm D. Jones. A prayer by Dr. Ed F. Cook, a musical number by two Wesleyan students, brief speeches by retiring Mayor Williams and Mayor Toole, and a principal address by W. T. Anderson were features of the ceremony.

IV. Establishment of New County Institutions

Litigation over the Roff Home property just beyond the Central of Georgia railroad tracks extending north from Holt Avenue which began in 1916 and was not settled until twenty years later, led the county to acquire some of the property formerly a part of Camp Wheeler. The litigation arose out of the contention that the land had been sold without legal right to A. A. Roff who in turn had deeded it to the city and the county for a home for the poor, and the suit was brought by the heirs of the original owners. After many decisions and reversals the suit was finally settled on a 60-40 per cent basis with the heirs receiving the larger share. Meantime, the county had secured the old infirmary for soldiers at Camp Wheeler and remodeled it into a Detention Home of the Bibb Juvenile Court which opened formally on January 13, 1922. This venture was so successful that in May, 1925, the County Commissioners brought a large tract from Alex Block and N. M. Block on which they planned to build a new alms house, a new juvenile home, and a tuberculosis hospital. Smithsonia was the name given the 280 acre development in October, 1926. The name honored Bridges Smith who for nine years had served as judge of the juvenile court. The new Detention Home was formally opened on October 7th. Mrs. John A. Davis, wife of the county probation officer, turned on the water and the current in the new home with its two dormitories, barn, milk house, dairy, and ice house. There were thirty-two residents in the home at the time. Sixty residents of Roff Home were moved from their simple frame cottages in town to their well built new home on November 29th. On January 8, 1927, Hopewell, the tuberculosis hospital, opened with facilities for eighteen white and twelve negro patients. Largely the dream of Lee Happ, this was the final one of the units planned at a total expenditure of $150,000.

A recommendation of the spring Grand Jury of the Bibb County Superior Court in June, 1923, resulted in the institution of another improvement. The Australian ballot system was adopted and used for the first time in the county at the next election.

Although it was not a county institution begun during these years, the Bibb County Law Library was saved by the action of County Commissioners in 1926. At this time the properties of the law library were about to be sold because there was no place to house them. However, when bar association members agreed to pay dues for the maintenance of the library, the county agreed to properly equip a room in the Court-

house to contain the books and to make a small annual grant for its support. This library is still in operation.

V. Some Business Developments

Just before the close of the war in 1918, J. P. Allen and Company of Atlanta announced its intention to establish a branch of its ready-to-wear store in Macon. Leasing the G. Bernd building (now occupied by Sterchi Brothers) the business opened in the fall of 1919 and was operated throughout the twenties. But as one new store opened, an old one went out of existence, for in November, 1924, the W. A. Doody Company which occupied what is now the First National Bank corner announced its closing effective December 24, 1924. According to its president James T. Redding, the move was not made because of financial losses but to settle an old estate. J. C. Penney established a store on Third Street a year later; Sears Roebuck and Company opened a store on Broadway on March 27, 1928, and in May, 1929, built a new store on Third Street near Plum; and Montgomery, Ward, and Company opened a store on Third Street on February 16, 1929. Roy Moore built a large new laundry on the corner of Poplar and New Streets, opening on August 28, 1928. This laundry sold out to William Snow in July, 1929. He had been operating a smaller plant in Vineville since October, 1926. A new $200,000 wholesale drug house, the second of its kind in Georgia, located in Macon in May, 1919, under the name of three of its largest stockholders, S. T. Coleman, Martin Meadows, and J. H. Pate. So the city was regularly attracting new businesses, even though none was on a gigantic scale.

An attempt to push the development of local kaolin resources was the enterprise of the Chamber of Commerce when it entertained about 300 delegates of the American Ceramic Society in February, 1926. The society was convening in Atlanta, and the convention featured an exhibit locally prepared showing Macon kaolin in various stages of refinement and articles made by firms using the local product. As an outcome of this project, John P. Ryan, industrial chemical engineer of Chicago, announced plans to build a clay refining plant in Macon.

In September, 1919, more than 1,000 textile workers went on strike in Macon. To meet the emergency City Council authorized the addition of seventy-five policemen. Mills closed down, and a miniature reign of terror existed on September 12th when the homes of some non-union workers were stoned, fist fights occurred, and there was even some violent hair pulling on the part of some female workers. Three days later the workers agreed to disband their union and return to work as individuals. On October 3, 1919, W. D. Anderson was elected president of the Bibb Manufacturing Company, and in 1921 the company amended its charter to provide for the issuance of two

million dollars in stock. This followed close upon the heels of a rise in the price of cotton that led to a general upswing in business.

Bank history during the twenties really begins with the purchase of the Continental Trust Company by the Fourth National Bank in February, 1918. During 1922 the Georgia Banking Company opened on September 1st with Roy W. Crockett as president. Three years later the Macon National Bank bought the Doody building on Cherry Street at Second and opened there for business on January 1, 1925. On the eve of its opening this bank made a $5,000,000 consolidation with the Bibb National Bank. The same year, 1925, saw the beginning of the Middle Georgia Agricultural Credit Corporation. It was a farm bank, and T. H. Halliburton was its first president. The Continental Trust Company withdrew from the Fourth National in January, 1927, and Charles B. Lewis became its president while Leon S. Dure continued to serve the bank in the same capacity. R. C. Dunlap succeeded Lewis in 1927 but exchanged places with vice-president R. A. McCord at his own request in April, 1928. In July of that year the Trust Company sold about 95 per cent of its stock to Atlanta bankers.

On November 26, 1928, a two hour run on the Fourth National Bank brought about the closing of that institution. Rumors spread during the week-end were credited with starting the run, and the closing of this bank caused the failure of seven small banks in middle Georgia. It also precipitated a run on all Macon banks on the day after Thanksgiving (the Fourth National had closed just before this holiday), but the run was weathered with cash rushed in by the Federal Reserve Bank. City Council held a special meeting on December 1st and asked the people of Macon to "scotch unfounded rumors" and "to dispel the spirit of panic".

VI. Progress of Educational Institutions

A—Changes in Public Education.

One of the most pressing needs of public education in Macon after the war was that of a new school at Fort Hawkins. This building was begun during the early part of 1920. However, almost coinciding with this project came the destruction by fire of the Clisby School on Hillyer Avenue which occurred on the night of January 5, 1920, and left 298 pupils without a school. The Board of Education met the problem first by transferring the Clisby children to the old Nisbet School on Orange Street which was not in use at the time. Then the pupils of Winship School were transferred to Alexander II School, the old Winship School was closed and a new school, which was meant to be called Clisby School, was planned. The children from Clisby were out of school until January 19th while the Nisbet building was put into shape for them, and the children were transported daily to and from

their new location. Meantime the Alexander School Board decided to spend $20,000 to add six rooms to Alexander II to care for the children from the Winship district. The new school erected on the corner of Pio Nono Avenue and Beech Street was designed by Dunwody and Oliphant with Carlyle Nisbet as associate architect and was begun in the summer of 1920. It was named Winship instead of Clisby upon its completion, and later the name Clisby was given to the recently built Vineville school. Fort Hawkins School opened with 506 pupils on April 4, 1921. Meanwhile there had been much agitation over the crowded condition existing at Virgil Powers, the oldest of the public elementary schools. The old building had become something of a fire trap, too, so when the city passed a bond issue in September, 1922, appropriating $500,000 for schools, construction of a new Virgil Powers was the first building undertaken. It was completed for use on October 15, 1923.

In 1926 the Newberg community had badly outgrown the old one-room frame building serving it for a school. So the County Commissioners increased their appropriation to provide a $100,000 building fund, and the new school named Charles H. Bruce School opened on March 7, 1927, and was formally dedicated on March 11th.

The final phase of grammar school expansion during these years was planned in 1928 when the Board of Education recommended a half million dollar bond issue to provide among other things a new grammar school in the Log Cabin Heights area, one in Ingleside, the enlargement of Alexander III School, and the improvement of several negro schools. In 1925 the Board had bought the four acre site of the old Log Cabin Club, and in November, 1928, it announced that construction would begin there. The school opened in September, 1929.

Part of the 1922 bond funds were voted to build a new high school for boys which was badly needed because of crowded conditions and because the boys lacked adequate drilling grounds. During 1920 Walter P. Jones had succeeded R. J. Coates as principal of the combined high school for boys and girls. For a year after funds were provided, the Board took no action toward building because of generally poor business conditions. The overflow from Lanier was taken care of by sending those students taking business education to the old Nisbet School. When fire damaged this building in February, 1922, these 250 commercial students had to have afternoon classes at Lanier until repairs could be completed. However, with business conditions improved, the Board bought the old Napier property facing Holt Avenue and selected Curran R. Ellis to design a new three story boys' high school. Lloyd Preacher of Augusta was assisting architect, and construction began in 1923 after the old Napier home place was turned around and moved to a lot facing Napier Avenue. Upon its completion in 1924, this school was named Lanier High School, and the name of the old school now occupied entirely by girls was changed to Pearl Stephens High

School. Upon petition of the entire student body, however, the Board of Education rescinded its act of naming a month later, and both schools continued under the Lanier name. Major Paul R. Anderson was named principal of the new boys' school with Miss Margaret McEvoy head of the girls' school. A memorial tablet honoring Sidney Lanier was unveiled in the new school by the Sidney Lanier Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy on October 4. 1927.

In October, 1925, the Board voted to add a fifth year to the high school course of study, so for the year 1927 there was no official graduating class. At the May, 1926, meeting of the Board of Education the members voted to abolish rural high schools at Lizella, Rutland, Union, and Howard schools and to transport the high school students in these areas to the Lanier schools by bus.

Professor Charles H. Bruce, superintendent of Bibb County schools since 1912, died suddenly following a stroke on August 7, 1926. Walter P. Jones, who had been serving as principal of both high schools since their separation, was named his successor. The death of Superintendent Bruce was a great civic loss, and the Rotary Club expressed the tribute of all when it said of him, "He left his city vastly better by reason of his living here."

By the 1928 bond election the girls had outgrown their school on Forsyth Street, and the need for a new girls' school was evident. So such a school was included among those proposed to be built with the money from the bond issue. At one time there was talk of placing the new school on the Gresham School site, but in August, 1929, the Board announced Montpelier Avenue as the location for the new senior high school for girls.

Another big undertaking by the Board of Education was the building of an industrial school for negroes. In March, 1922, a site on Monroe Street was chosen. When completed the school was named the Hudson Industrial School in honor of J. H. T. Hudson who was principal of the first negro school in Macon which had stood in this same spot forty-five years before.

The Elam Alexander Normal School taught by Miss Pearl Stephens and under the supervision of the Board of Education was operating at a peak in the early twenties. In October, 1922, there were sixty-three Bibb County girls attending the school. However, in June, 1923, announcement was made of the closing of the school and the granting of a year's leave of absence to its teacher because of ill health. The death of Miss Pearl Stephens in Atlanta on June 28, 1923, resulted in the permanent discontinuance of the school. She had made an invaluable contribution to the educational life of the county through the excellent training she gave her student teachers and through the high moral and intellectual standards that she set for them. The Bibb County Teachers' Association paid honor to her in March, 1924, when

they started a scholarship fund as a memorial to her. The fund is still helping worthwhile girls to prepare themselves for the teaching profession, but the most lasting memorial to this educator exists in the persons of many of her teachers who are teaching in the Bibb County schools.

One interesting though short-lived phase of public education not under the supervision of the Bibb County Board of Education was the formation of the local Illiteracy Commission in early 1920. Born of the census findings on the number of illiterates, the commission was a branch of a national movement, and its chairman was Eugene Anderson. The first of the local classes for illiterates planned by the commission was held at Willingham Cotton Mill. The Board of Education under laws of the state was unable to help finance this work because the classes were open only to persons over eighteen years of age. So because of lack of funds the Illiteracy Commission died on July 5, 1921.

B—Educational Activities of Schools Operated by the Catholic Church.

St. Stanislaus, the college operated in Vineville by the Jesuit Society of the Catholic church, burned in November, 1921, and there was some doubt from the beginning of its being rebuilt. In September, 1924, the Macon Catholics began a drive to raise $75,000 to insure the rebuilding of the school. Chris F. Sheridan was named chairman of a twenty-one man steering committee to head the drive. When the drive ended, the committee had collected a total of $45,200 with promise of an additional $5,000 to be paid if the college remained in Macon. So the Society of Jesus decided that it was not to be rebuilt, at least, not at that time. They planned to sell the property in Vineville as they felt that the location was too much in the urban area of Macon but to retain the retreat on Forest Hill Avenue in the event of a later decision to rebuild.

Mt. de Sales Academy celebrated its Golden Jubilee on May 31, 1920. The celebration marked the cancellation of the school's $100,000 bonded indebtedness and the fiftieth anniversary of the vows of Reverend Mother Genevieve and Mother M. Alphonsus who had been connected with the institution since its start in 1879.

As to its elementary school, in March, 1925, St. Joseph's Church announced its plan to build a three story parochial school on the site of the rectory behind the church, but this decision was altered a year later. Then the church bought the old Crutchfield home on High Street with a lot extending back to Washington Avenue and remodeled it into an elementary school now in use.

C—Mercer University During the Twenties.

The years of the war brought two bequests to Mercer University.

The first of these was the bequest of the entire estate of Miss Carrie Sanders of Wilkes County which was announced in July, 1917. Miss Sanders was the daughter of Reverend Billington M. Sanders, Mercer's first president. Then in the fall of 1918 a gift of $50,000 to be invested so that the interest would provide a student aid fund was left to the university by Dr. W. B. Hardman, former chairman of the Board of Trustees of the college.

Upon the resignation of President Pickard in June, 1918, Dr. Rufus W. Weaver was named president of Mercer. Formerly a Vanderbilt University professor, Dr. Weaver was at the time of his election educational secretary of the Tennessee Baptists. A year and a half later in December, 1920, the university announced its plan to spend more than $100,000 on new buildings during 1921. One of the units undertaken was a group of faculty apartments built facing Adams Street.

In June, 1922, Mercer University was opened for the first time to women by action of its trustees. The only provision at first made on female attendance was "that the courses may not be obtained in regular women's colleges". Miss Caroline Patterson was the first woman to receive a degree from Mercer in June, 1923.

At about the same time as the graduation of the first woman from Mercer, a $100,000 gift from Frank S. Etheridge of Atlanta was announced. Called "the largest single donation" to the college, it was set up as a student loan fund. Also in 1923 Judge William H. Fish arrived to become dean of Mercer's law school. He was a retired Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, and under his leadership the Mercer Law School received a Class A rating, the highest given by the Bar Association.

During 1925 a new theology building named Groover Memorial Hall was begun with $10,000 provided for the purpose by the will of Mrs. E. E. Reynolds, and at the same time an anonymous donor provided a gift that resulted in the establishment of a new chair in the Theological Seminary. Also during 1925 the University began a $200,000 drive to erect a memorial gymnasium to the Mercer men who had fallen in the World War. Still later in conjunction with the celebration of the centennial of the First Baptist Church in Macon, Mercer had a Centennial Campaign during which the school received a $50,000 gift from Columbus Roberts, trustee. On March 29, 1927, the school dedicated Roberts Memorial Chapel in the Theological Seminary with appropriate exercises. It was announced that Dr. John D. Freeman of Winnipeg, Manitoba, was to come to Mercer in the fall as professor of homiletics. A few days later Eugene W. Stetson endowed a chair of economics with a gift of $50,000.

In 1927 Dr. Weaver, under whose administration the university had made such remarkable forward strides, announced his intention of

resigning. There were strenuous efforts upon the part of many local organizations as well as on the part of the trustees to keep Dr. Weaver at Mercer, but he resigned formally on August 27, 1927, to become secretary of education for the Board of Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. A. P. Montague, vice-president of the college, was named acting president. He served until June 1, 1928, when Dr. Spright Dowell, former president of Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn, accepted the presidency.

One of the last features of Mercer's pre-war expansion during this period was the construction of a new law school building which was authorized in December, 1927. This building was completed for the fall opening in 1929.

C—Greater Wesleyan Become a Reality.

In May, 1917, the trustees of Wesleyan College voted to eliminate the word *Female* from the name of the school. Just before this time and during the war years, the enrollment of Wesleyan was steadily increasing so that the necessity for expansion became evident. Each year students had to be turned away largely because of inadequate dormitory facilities. In 1920 when there was much talk of a greatly enlarged school, W. B. Sparks offered 200 acres of land up the river beyond Baconsfield Park as a possible site. It was during this year that Dr. Charles R. Jenkins resigned as president of the college because of ill health, and Dr. W. F. Quillian, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Fort Valley, was elected to succeed him. A year later the General Board of Education of New York gave the college $110,000. The college asked the city for $500,000 in its "Greater Wesleyan" drive, and the city responded generously under the leadership of a number of prominent business men. In November, 1922, the college bought 132 acres at Rivoli as its new site. This was the impetus for the launching of a million dollar campaign headed by O. A. Park. It would be difficult to name each of the large benefactors of the college during this campaign; there were many, and they were most generous. In December, 1925, the building plans expanded to a $3,000,000 plant at Rivoli with the College Street plant to be operated as a conservatory, a separate unit. Walker and Weeks of Cleveland were chosen architects to draw plans for the buildings with Dunwody and Oliphant named local supervising architects.

In a pageant written by Miss Eunice Thomson the ground for Greater Wesleyan was broken on May 28, 1926. Leading figures in the pageant were Mrs. W. D. Anderson, president of the Wesleyan Alumnae Association, and chairman of the committee on arrangements, who represented the "Spirit of Alumnae"; Mrs. W. D. Lamar, "Spirit of Greater Wesleyan"; and Miss Dorothy Thomas, president of the class of 1926, "Dream of Wesleyan". Following the pageant Bishop

W. N. Ainsworth, chairman of the Board of Trustees, turned the first spadeful of earth.

Wesleyan lost one of her best loved and most faithful employees just before the college was moved when on July 26, 1926, "Uncle" Johnson died. The familiar old negro servant who had opened the gate for so many Wesleyan students was buried beneath flowers tied with the colors of "his college" with tribute paid him by the president of the school who called him "an honest saint of God". He did not live to "open the gates" of the new college.

First bids on Greater Wesleyan were opened on January 15, 1927, and the work, begun at once, went forward rapidly. The second contract was let in September, 1927, and by fall of the next year the school was ready for occupancy. Formal opening exercises were held in the gymnasium which was to serve also as a chapel. One feature of the exercises was the baptism of Mary Lane Edwards, grand-daughter of Harry Stillwell Edwards and of Mary Roxanna Lane Edwards of the class of 1876, an infant who was destined to graduate with honor from the college 21 years later. W. D. Anderson, chairman of the building and finance committee, made the presentation of the buildings which were accepted by President Quillian. Bishop Warren A. Candler made the principal address. So Greater Wesleyan began its operation in a new location.

VII. Post-War Church History

At least two denominations built the first church of their faith in Macon during the post-war years. The first of these was the First Church of Christ, Scientist which was erected on the corner of Georgia Avenue and North Arlington Place. Early services of that faith had been held in the old library building on Mulberry Street. The cornerstone for the new white marble church was laid on July 5, 1920. The second one was the new Lutheran Church opened on Holt Avenue on March 20, 1921. Previous services of this congregation had been held in the Y.M.C.A. Building at Mercer University.

Several churches erected new buildings in the decade following the war. On September 4, 1922, William Hunt, youngest male member of the Vineville Baptist Church, broke ground for a new structure on the corner of Vineville and Pierce Avenue. This church was formally presented at a special dedication service on April 26, 1925, although the last service in the old church on Vineville Avenue at Lamar Street had been held on September 28, 1924. Beginning December 28, 1924, the Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church held services in this building which the congregation bought to replace its old location in South Macon.

The cornerstone for a new Vineville Methodist Church on a corner lot adjoining the older church was laid in a ceremony conducted by

Bishop W. N. Ainsworth on April 4, 1926, and Bishop Warren A. Candler preached the first sermon in the new church on December 5, 1926. Mulberry Street Methodist Church also planned an expansion program in 1926 during its centennial celebration. The result was the completion for services of a new structure on March 25, 1928. This program culminated on June 10th of that year with the formal opening of the Mulberry annex. A memorial tablet honoring one of the best loved of the members of this church, W. G. Solomon, had been unveiled on May 6, 1928, in the Sunday School room that still bears his name.

The Baptist Tabernacle laid the cornerstone for its new auditorium on January 9, 1927, and held first services in it on April 17th. Another Baptist congregation, the Cherokee Heights Baptist Church, began construction of a new building on Napier Avenue during 1927 just ten years after its organization on October 7, 1917. Cherokee Heights Methodist Church began a building program in 1928, and Bishop W. B. Beauchamp preached the first sermon in this new church, built on the old location on December 30, 1928.

The 150th anniversary of the founding of the first Baptist church in Georgia at Keokee in Columbia County was marked by a ceremony during June, 1922, that included a pilgrimage to Penfield, former site of Mercer University and reached a climax in Macon on June 6th. Three local churches celebrated their centennial years during the twenties. Christ Church was the first of these, opening its celebration on March 5, 1925. The Misses Mary and Birdie Baber Blackshear decorated the altar for the occasion using as part of the decorations greenery from plants tended by their father Dr. Ambrose Baber, one of the founders of the church, and placing in it the first baptismal bowl used by the congregation. Mulberry Street Methodist Church's centennial opened on April 6, 1926, and featured the reading of a historical sketch of the church by O. A. Park and reports from the "Daughters of Mulberry", those churches which had stemmed from the mother church. December, 1926, was the centennial month of both the First Baptist and the First Presbyterian Churches. The three day Baptist celebration beginning December 10th featured the reading of the church history and a sermon by Dr. E. C. Dargan, pastor of the church from 1907 through 1917. On December 26th the First Presbyterian celebration was held featuring the reading of the history of that church written by R. L. Anderson at the morning service and a special cantata at the evening one.

Additional church building activities during the twenties included construction of a new Sunday School building on the Napier Avenue side of St. James Episcopal Church during 1921, and the remodeling of Christ Church and the construction of a parish house that was opened with a pageant on June 25, 1926. The First

Presbyterian Church completed an annex for Sunday School room in 1925, and the Lutheran Church added a Sunday School building in July, 1926.

A last feature of church history during these years was the removal of the Appleton Church Home from College Street to a new location near the Breezy Hill Reservoir. The Atlanta Diocese of the Episcopal Church bought the old Barfield property on Forest Hill Avenue in October, 1922, and the old home of the orphanage was transferred as a parish house after the removal in May, 1925.

VIII. The Civic Club Move Grows

Beginning in the years before the war, the movement for the establishment of civic clubs continued strongly during the post-war years. In February, 1920, Warren Kimsey, field organizer for Kiwanis Club spent several days in Macon helping to establish a Kiwanis Club in the city. Officers chosen for this club were General Walter A. Harris, president; John M. Cutler, vice-president; E. C. Scott, treasurer; and H. F. Martin, secretary. With directors R. C. Corbin, J. Campbell Jones, E. G. Jacobs, Morris Michael, Jesse B. Hart, W. E. Markwalter, and Emmett Barnes, Jr., the officers constituted a temporary board of governors and a membership committee and became charter members of the club.

On April 18, 1921, the first meeting of a group of Macon men paved the way for the organization of the Macon Lions Club. The final step in this organization was another meeting on May 6th when twenty-six charter members chose George E. Patterson to be their first president. When he was forced to resign because of business responsibilities, M. J. Witman was chosen to complete his unexpired term of office. The club immediately took its place beside others in civic endeavors.

Hardly had this club completed its organization when it was joined by the Civitan Club, next to be organized on June 4, 1921. One member of each profession or vocation was invited to join until a quota of fifty charter members was reached. The club's motto, "Builders of Good Citizenship", had been established at the origin of the organization in Birmingham in 1916. T. Rad Turner was named Civitan's first president.

The next in the procession of new civic clubs was unique because it was an organization of business and professional women called Pilot Club. Formed during September, 1921, the club had its first formal meeting and dinner on October 18, 1921. Miss Elizabeth Leonard was its first president.

The Business Men's Evangelistic Club with a charter membership of fifty was organized on March 22, 1922. The object of this club was to enlist men in Christian activity, and its first president was R. F. Burden. Another club begun during the same year was the Masivic

Club, an international organization born of the fraternal order of Masons. Its purpose was to promote civic work through the Masons, and P. T. Anderson was one of its early leaders.

Other civic clubs that originated during these years were the Eagles Club, organized November 21, 1923, with Charles Marks as president; another organization of women, the Business and Professional Women's Club, that came into being shortly after the centennial in 1923; and the Palladium Club which was formed in February, 1926, with Reverend A. C. Baker as its president.

These clubs joined in the promotion of every big civic undertaking during the twenties, and to their cooperation belongs much of the credit for the success of those projects. One interesting effort toward the promotion of world peace through better understanding was the work of the Rotary Club. In the summer of 1928 this club under the presidency of Dr. W. G. Lee sent four Macon boys abroad to live in the Scandinavian countries and to study their life and customs for six weeks. Then in the summer of 1929 four Scandinavian boys came to the United States and visited the city of Macon.

A special phase of civic club development of these years was the organization of a Junior Chamber of Commerce. Mark F. Etheridge was chairman of the organization committee which invited young business men between the ages of eighteen and thirty to an organizational meeting on December 5, 1921. J. T. Hogan was named temporary president of the seventy-two members present that night, and Mark F. Etheridge became first permanent president in February, 1922. These young men made up one of the most active civic organizations, almost immediately forming a bureau to help middle Georgia farmers dispose of their products. The promotion of an airport of adequate size, the sponsorship of a local radio station, and the building of a municipal golf course near Lakeside were only a few of the projects undertaken by the body. The Junior Chamber of Commerce was also actively concerned in the movement to complete the Washington Memorial Library, and the planning of the Macon Centennial pageant was greatly aided by this group along with the other civic clubs.

IX. Macon's Centennial Celebration

By far the most important event in city history during the twenties was the celebration of Macon's hundredth birthday during 1923. In the outline of its program proposed for 1920 the Chamber of Commerce listed the laying of plans for this celebration as one item. This body named W. E. Dunwody chairman of a Chamber of Commerce committee to arrange for the celebration. On June 20, 1922, a joint committee of representatives from the city's many civic organizations met for the first time, and on October 17, 1922, General Walter A. Harris was announced as general chairman of the Macon Centennial

Celebration. The Macon Writers' Club was asked to write the pageant for the celebration, and it was completed in February, 1923. A finance committee guaranteed the $150,000 estimated cost of the celebration by securing from local merchants subscriptions that underwrote it. Miss Olive Jackson of New York was chosen to direct the pageant with Mr. William Steene as her assistant. The entire city entered feverishly upon the necessary preparations for the days of celebration, and by the arrival of May 9, 1923, Macon was in a gala mood. The celebration beginning on that date extended through May 11th, and the schedule of each day's events was as follows:

Wednesday Morning, May 9, 1923

11:00 o'clock: Festival of Flowers, Heart of Downtown Macon.

Wednesday Afternoon

3:00 o'clock: Concert by Creatore's Band, Central City Park.
4:30 o'clock: Opening of Historic Pageant, Central City Park.

Wednesday Evening

8:30 o'clock: Concert by Creatore's Band, Third Street Park.

Thursday Morning, May 10, 1923

11:00 o'clock: Parade of Organizations and Institutions, through Business District.
12:00 o'clock: Parade of Negro Industries, Organizations, and Institutions, through Business District.

Thursday Afternoon

3:00 o'clock: Concert by Creatore's Band, Central City Park.
4:00 o'clock: Pageant, Central City Park, continuing in chronological order from point reached the preceding day.

Thursday Evening

8:30 o'clock: Concert by Creatore's Band, Third Street Park.
9:00 o'clock: Procession of Fantastiques on Cherry Street.

Friday Morning, May 11, 1923

11:00 o'clock: Review of Commerce and Industry, Business District.

Friday Afternoon

3:00 o'clock: Concert by Creatore's Band, Central City Park.
4:30 o'clock: Pageant, Central City Park, continuing in chronological order from point reached on preceding day going through final episodes.

Friday Evening

8:30 o'clock: Concert by Creatore's Band, Third Street Park.
9:00 o'clock: Street Carnival, Downtown Macon.

The pageant was presented chronologically each afternoon before audiences estimated to range from 15,000 to 30,000 people which was amazing in view of the vast numbers of people who were participants in the pageant. It was the most spectacular experience the city had

ever witnessed. The pageant opened with the utterance by the audience in unison of a prayer which expressed gratitude for guidance in the past and a petition for help in the future to build "a Greater Macon Upon the Firm Foundation of Truth and Honor". Episodes presented on the first day were the inhabiting of the Old Ocmulgee Fields by Creek Indians, the coming of DeSoto, the establishment of Fort Hawkins, the founding of Macon, and the visit of LaFayette. The second day's program featured the establishment of Wesleyan College, the visit of Henry Clay to Macon, Sidney Lanier, the Confederate period, and the visit of Jefferson Davis. On the last day the episodes included the educational expansion of 1871-1876, the establishment of Camp Harris, and the World War. In the finale the Spirit of Macon evoked the Past, the Present, and the Future in religion, education, art, agriculture, commerce, industry, labor, and transportation. This brief treatment, of course, gives no idea of the beauty of the out-of-door setting, of the grace of the performers, of the solemnity of the memories evoked, of the dignity of the story told, and of the grandeur of the spectacle. Certain it is that this was a worthy celebration of the cultural growth and expansion of a crossroads village, doomed to extinction by such a one as Captain Basil Hall, into a city that was already looking toward the broader horizons of the future.

X. Echoes of the War

A—Memorials to Soldiers.

No war is ever fought that does not leave its scars upon individuals and its marks upon a land. Yet people are prone to forget easily, so memorials are erected to keep alive the memory of men's sacrifices. On January 2, 1919, fifteen Macon men gathered after a call from Captain R. C. Hazlehurst at a meeting presided over by Guy E. Paine to hear a letter from Major Cooper Winn who was still overseas. Major Winn told how his men had begun a collection of funds to start a memorial for their fallen comrades of the 151st Machine Gun Battalion. Out of this meeting came the idea of a permanent memorial, and the organization necessary for its erection was begun following a mass meeting at the Grand on February 14, 1919. Here a representative committee of citizens from the city and county was chosen to plan the memorial. On April 1, 1922, a design for the proposed memorial was selected by a building committee headed by Mrs. J. C. Haire, and on April 4th Council granted permission for placing the monument on Coleman Hill. The beautifully simple granite shaft with its bronze tablet of inscription was designed by Captain Sidney Brown who had served with Company B (Macon Volunteers) of the 151st. On Armistice Day in 1922, the $10,000 memorial was dedicated. There was a parade in the city, and the dedication ceremony took place on Coleman Hill where the marker had been placed. Following an invocation

by Reverend Oliver J. Hart, an address was made by Boyce E. Miller, and the idea born in a little theater in the village of Kripp on the banks of the Rhine took permanent form.

Another memorial idea was that of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Chamber of Commerce, an organization formally started on February 10, 1920, with Mrs. W. O. Kinney as president. This was a plan to create a living "Road of Remembrance" by planting memorial trees along the highway. The first step in this move was the planting of more than a hundred trees in the Howard district on February 22, 1921. Lunch was served from the community school to about 300 visitors who were present for the planting. An initial dedication service was held in the same spot on November 11, 1923, with Dr. Spright Dowell and W. T. Anderson as speakers of the day. Later on May 24, 1927, the "Road of Remembrance" was dedicated following the completion of the first mile of it on the Dixie Highway. The road had been planted with pecan trees to honor soldiers, and a bronze marker was placed in front of each. The service was held at a spot on the Houston Road just beyond Seven Bridges. Just before the dedication, an airplane dropped flowers along the roadside. The invocation was given by Dr. W. R. Mackay, and there was an address by General H. D. Russell who was introduced by Mrs. Charles Akerman, president of the Bibb County Dixie Highway Auxiliary. Then Mrs. E. P. Frazier read the names of those being remembered and poppies were placed at each marker. An address by North Winship and a prayer of dedication by Dr. C. R. Jenkins closed the dedication service.

Another sort of memorial was the set of chimes which Christ Church installed in late 1923 and dedicated to those members of the church who had served in the Confederate Army and to those serving in the Allied Armies during the World War.

B—Some Heroes Return.

Significant of all those who had died overseas and who were returned after the close of the war to lie in the land they had loved was the return on July 21, 1921, of Lieutenant Joseph N. Neel to whom a military burial was given from the First Presbyterian Church and of Otis Knight to whom the same honor was paid in Ebenezer Church. Some others who later were returned to Macon were Chambers Bunting, Jr., and Ernest L. McWilliams.

To these men and to all such heroes a French hero, General Henri Joseph Eugene Gourand, paid tribute on his visit to Macon on August 5, 1923. General Gourand who had commanded the 151st Machine Gun Battalion in the campaigns of 1918 was accompanied to Macon by Jack Peavy, president of the Rainbow Division Veterans' Association in Macon which was his host for the day, and by Lieutenant Colonel Cooper Winn. His day began with Mass at the Catholic

church, followed by breakfast at the home of Mrs. J. C. Morton. Then he was driven around the city until time for a luncheon followed by a reception. During the early afternoon the general visited the graves of some of the Macon soldiers, extended his sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph N. Neel upon the death of their son, and finally visited the monument on Coleman Hill where he spoke briefly through an interpreter to a large gathering of people. In part he said, "Nobody can prophesy the future. Who knows but all these young boys here will see another war", and he urged preparedness.

C—Organizations of Veterans.

The American Legion was an organization of veterans that grew out of a convention held in St. Louis in May, 1919, and on July 11th Macon veterans met to form a local post of the Legion. Upon a motion of Major Mike Witman the Macon organization was named the Joseph N. Neel Post, and its first officers were Lincoln McConnell, chairman; Sam Powers, vice-chairman; John J. McCrary, secretary; and Allen Clements, treasurer. A Woman's Auxiliary of the Neel Post was organized on January 12, 1921, with Mrs. W. O. Kinney, president, The Rainbow Division veterans formed an association, and on November 11, 1923, the veterans of the 82nd Division also organized. Leo Sheridan was named first president of the latter organization.

D—Rebirth of Local Military Units.

The historic Macon National Guard units began reorganizing shortly after the close of the war. First of these was the Macon Hussars under Captain F. A. Whitaker which was sworn into federal service on August 2, 1920. Next the Macon Machine Gun Company reorganized on September 14, 1920, under Captain Boyce E. Miller. Captain Miller resigned before the company was mustered into federal service on October 4th under First Lieutenant Usher T. Winslett. Later Charles I. Bennett became captain of this unit. On September 23rd Floyd Rifles reorganized, and D. C. Harris was named its captain. It was mustered in on October 18th. The Macon Volunteers were sworn in under Captain Sidney Brown on November 29th after reorganization on October 5th. There followed in rapid succession the mustering in of the Georgia Motorized Field Hospital, a newly organized company under Major M. Klausman on January 4, 1921; a Headquarters Company under Captain Charles M. Huguley, and a Sanitary Detachment under Major J. M. Sigman on March 14th; and the eighth National Guard company, the Southern Cadets under Lieutenant Joseph C. Haire, on June 17, 1921.

One of these organizations, the Macon Volunteers, celebrated its centennial on April 23, 1925, with registration and a smoker during the morning, a luncheon followed by a parade in the afternoon, and

a banquet and a ball with about 1,000 guests at night. Colonel C. M. Wiley was the only one of the Confederate veteran members of the company in attendance.

The Floyd Rifles with the Machine Gun Company were called out during July, 1921, when they reported for duty to Fitzgerald. The town had been put under martial law following the shooting of an engineer on the Atlanta, Birmingham, and Atlantic Railway during a strike. The companies were on duty only two days.

XI. Some Developments of Transportation, Communication, and Utilities

A—River Development.

With the beginning of the war, navigation companies failed to get congressional appropriations large enough to permit regular river transportation. Also there was a lack of support of the barges operated by the Macon Navigation Company so that firm sold out in July, 1917. Efforts to revive the company failed, and the final attempt to open Macon to Brunswick river traffic was the granting of a charter to the Hilda Navigation Company in July, 1923. It was to operate a line of steamboats between Brunswick and Savannah and to extend operation to Macon when the channel was cleared. But this never happened.

The river caused damage in Central City Park on December 11, 1919, when flood waters broke through the levee marooning fifty men overnight in a building of a local fertilizer company. The city realizing the need for enlargement of the levee borrowed $40,000 from Macon business men and rebuilt the levee three feet higher and twenty-three feet wide at the top.

In late December, 1923, the Fifth Street bridge was closed to vehicle traffic. The flooring of the bridge was quite rough, but the chief danger was weakness in the main suspension arches. S. B. Slack, chief engineer of the State Highway Commission, designed a new bridge, and after preliminary surveys, construction by a Columbus, Georgia, firm began in September, 1924. The old bridge was raised twelve feet in the air and steps were built at both approaches to permit foot passengers to cross it. By February 15, 1925, the new bridge opened to pedestrians, and at four o'clock on the afternoon of April 15, 1926, in a formal ceremony complete with a parade, speeches, and band music, Mayor Miller cut the rope to allow passage of the first vehicle to cross the bridge since January 1, 1924. On August 3, 1926, the Spring Street bridge was closed for about two weeks to permit the laying of new flooring on it.

B—Railroad Expansion.

In 1920 the Central of Georgia began the building of a large new freight terminal which had been planned before the war. Three years

later the company built a new steel trestle over Walnut Creek, and in 1928 it completed a small new station at Rivoli to conform to Wesleyan architecture.

The Southern Railroad made some post-war expansion, too, with the expenditure of ten million dollars during 1924 to improve the Macon to Chattanooga division. Then in July, 1928, work was completed on its new million dollar Round House, a part of its shops.

An interesting bit of local railroad history was the attempt to blow up the trestle over the Forsyth Road near Rivoli. The incident occurred on September 24, 1922, during a strike, and enough dynamite was used to wreck the largest office building in Macon. However, it did little damage because it was placed in the open on the end of the trestle instead of in a hole.

C—Growing Development of Streets and Roads.

The year 1919 marked the beginning of an era of motor truck transportation in Macon. On February 15, 1919, a line operating daily from Macon to nearby towns made its first trip, and a big motor truck parade of 123 loaded vehicles boosted such hauling on April 2, 1919. This, of course, helped to further interest in the development of improved streets and roads. In August, 1923, the newly completed Echeconnee concrete bridge built jointly by Bibb and Houston counties was dedicated as a memorial to the soldiers of the two counties who fell during the World War. In May, 1925, the county announced plans to build an underpass at the railroad on Clisby Place for the safety of the high school boys now occupying their new school.

On July 31, 1925, in a Prosperity Issue the *Telegraph* announced that 41 miles of road had been paved in the county since the passage of a $700,000 bond issue in 1919. This brought the county's total of paved roads up to 72 miles with 31 miles of paved streets. A $750,000 allotment of federal funds in October, 1925, enabled the completion of Macon to Atlanta pavement. This was partly the result of interest in the Dixie Highway, and such interest was being continually stimulated by such feats as the Dixie Highway Motorcade which was entertained on its through trip to Florida on October 15, 1925. The completion of a continuous paved road from Marietta to Perry was marked on May 25, 1927, with the dedication of a bronze tablet placed at the Spalding-Henry County line, and several Macon people attended the dedication.

The Clinton Road which had been paved in 1928 began crumbling a year later, and there was a move to patch it. However, a terrific rain storm on August 10th during which more than eight inches of rain fell caused a cave in which necessitated rebuilding most of the road near Macon. Also during the same storm two bridges washed out and had to be replaced. Both were over Walnut Creek, one at Cross

Keys, and one on the Clinton Road. Steadily the county was fighting for funds to improve roads.

Macon itself was beginning to take on the shape of a city. The last utility pole was removed from Cherry Street during July, 1925, and on June 12, 1926, traffic lights went into operation on that street. Finally, on January 18, 1928, traffic had become so heavy that street cars began to run only one way on this main street, and two weeks later motorists were forbidden for the first time to make U turns at the ends of Cherry on First and Fifth Streets.

D—Increasing Importance of Air Travel.

Meanwhile a newer mode of travel which had begun just before the war was firing civic imagination with new kinds of needs. Air transportation was given a big boost with the holding of the Southeastern Aeronautical Congress in Macon on May 2-4, 1919. This meeting featured displays at the fair grounds, daily flying demonstrations, balloon flights, stunt flying, and aerial combat flying. As an exhibition feature the "first aerial mail ship operated in the South and the second in the United States" took off on May 3rd for Montgomery carrying about 200 pieces of mail. Mark F. Etheridge was on board the plane to get firsthand information for a story about it. The plane returned to Macon, and on May 6th it made another trip. Fliers attending the congress pronounced the landing field in the Central City Park race track to be the best in the Southeast. In February, 1925, the city began to prepare the old parade grounds at Camp Wheeler to receive twelve planes making a dawn-to-dusk flight from Michigan to Miami. The squadron arrived in Macon which was its only scheduled stop on February 28th, but since the planes were two hours behind schedule because of weather conditions, they abandoned the rest of the flight. The Junior Chamber of Commerce was at work to get an airport established, and the incentive came in September, 1926, when Macon was announced as a stop on an air mail route. The first mail pouch was thrown off on September 16th, and a new field near Recreation Park, property of W. W. Solomon, was leased by the city and formally dedicated on September 27, 1926. A feature of the ceremony was the christening of the mail plane with the name "Miss Macon" by Mrs. J. V. Skinner, daughter of Mayor Wallace Miller, and the announcement of the field's name as Miller Field in honor of Mayor Miller. The leasing of the field was largely due to the work of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Kiwanis Club. However, the airline did not pay expenses, and Macon's air mail service was suspended on December 31, 1926.

Interest in air travel continued, and on July 5, 1927, Mayor Miller and T. H. Halliburton of the Chamber of Commerce entertained the commander of a Pan-American Good Will Flight at a dinner when he

stopped over in Macon. Two months later a trail blazing plane of the Dixie Northern Air Line came to Macon to lay plans for landing on its regular weekly flights which were started in November. A flying school which had operated for a short time from the field discontinued its school in March, 1928, following two disastrous crashes. During May, 1928, the city bought the 249 acres it had been leasing from Mrs. W. W. Solomon. The only opposition to the purchase came from several who felt that the field offered too little room for expansion because it was so hemmed in by private owners. However, the city bought twenty-one adjoining small lots three months later, and completed an agreement with the government whereby a beacon light was erected at the field by the government. The field was leased in October, 1928, to another flying service with reservation of landing rights for visiting planes and mail planes. On March 1, 1929, air mail service was resumed when Macon became a stop on the Atlanta to Miami mail route. The final step in the history of air travel in Macon during these years was the sponsorship by the Junior Chamber of Commerce of the Southeastern Aeronautical Exposition in late May and early June, 1929. The city had just completed the lighting of the field, and the new lights were dedicated by Mayor Luther Williams in a brief ceremony on May 31st with night flying following.

E—Macon Opens a Radio Station.

During April, 1922, the physics department of Mercer University under Dr. C. R. Fountain began the installation of radio apparatus, and on August 18, 1922, the first program was broadcast by that station. In November of the same year the station received a government license to operate under the call letters WMAZ. H. C. Hanson, formerly a steamship radio operator, was to be a full time licensed operator of the station. Early in 1926 the station ceased broadcasting for a year, and when it resumed, it was under the direction of the Junior Chamber of Commerce which had appropriated $600 to revive the station. Under the sponsorship of this body operation continued through December, 1927, and then it was leased for private operation by E. K. Cargill and George Rankin. Their lease was for a one year period with a nine year option, Mercer University had retained ownership of the station throughout its entire existence, but on February 22, 1928, the school deeded ownership of the station to the Junior Chamber of Commerce who allowed the lease already entered upon to continue. The programs of the station were becoming increasingly popular, its listening range was broadening, and its operation was growing into a profitable business.

F—Utilities.

The history of utilities during the twenties is one of expansion. The waterworks installed a new pump with a capacity of ten million gallons

during 1923. Also a new reservoir with a thirteen million gallon capacity went up on Second Street and opened on February 15, 1926. In spite of the withdrawal of city subsidy in 1927, the waterworks continued to show a yearly profit of about $50,000. Surely no move made by the city was wiser than public acquisition of the waterworks.

In the development of power, the Central Georgia Power Company bought the Winship property in early 1924 and began a steam plant to augment the power from Jackson Dam. Then in June, 1926, Macon's power utilities were bought by the Southeastern Power Company with headquarters in Birmingham. This company had gained control of utilities in many towns in the state, and all were to be combined into one headed and directed by the Georgia Railway and Power Company of Atlanta. Included in the merger were the local Macon Railway and Light Company, the Central Georgia Power Company, the Central Georgia Transmission Company, and the Georgia Public Service Corporation. Preston S. Arkwright was elected president of the Georgia Power Company on September 16, 1926.

XII. Some Local Disasters

Fire accounted for three large scale disasters during the twenties. Two of these occurred within a period of two months, and one of them resulted in a tragic loss of life. The historic old Brown House, oldest frame hotel in the city, burned following a sudden explosion on the night of August 21, 1921. Escaping gas from an uncapped pipe connected to a live pipe seeped into the basement of the hotel. Then a spark from the elevator set off the gas and caused the explosion according to the verdict established by two investigating juries. However, part of the blame for the death of the six people who were fire casualties was laid on insufficient stairways for escape. Ironic though it was, a spite wall erected many years before between the Brown House Annex and the Edgerton Hotel next door saved that place from destruction at the same time. Also ironic was the fact that an earlier hotel on the same spot had burned on April 21, 1878.

Hardly had the city recovered from the shock of this fire when the Jesuit college, St. Stanislaus, burned on November 7th with a total loss amounting to about $200,000. The personal belongings of students from five European countries and two North American continents were lost, and hundreds of rare old volumes, some dating back to the 1400's, were destroyed. The five story building with a much taller tower through the center had been built in 1874 and was first called Pio Nono College, later changing its name in 1889. Just outside the city limits, it was barely beyond the reach of fire hose. Cause of this fire was later established as spontaneous combustion caused by storing an oil mop in an airtight closet.

An earlier fire on May 30th had proved disastrous to another local

college. Most of the physical plant of the Central City College, an institution for negroes, was destroyed in a fire set by a mentally deranged negress. However, the 300 students escaped without injury and began efforts at once to rebuild the college.

Another disaster of these years was an airplane crash on February 18, 1928. A plane from the local flying school was flying low over the city dropping harmless cardboard bombs to advertise the coming Southeastern Air Derby. No one was ever able to establish exactly what happened to cause it, but the plane crashed on Cherry Street at a spot in front of what was then a pharmacy but is now a ready-to-wear shop on the corner of the alley below Second Street. The pilot, Samuel L. Steele, and Francis Ashcraft, brother of one of the owners of the local school, were killed in the crash. Also a pedestrian struck by a wing of the plane was killed, and more than a dozen spectators who crowded out to see the wreckage were slightly injured when the sidewalk gave way plunging them into a cellar several feet below.

XIII. Evidences of Cultural Interests

The establishment of the Chautauqua of the South in Macon provided outstanding entertainment for a season in each of several successive years. The 1918 Chautauqua, held in the newly constructed auditorium on the same site now occupied by the Municipal Auditorium, featured among other attractions an art exhibit. This was largely the inspiration of the Georgia Art Association which had been organized on January 19, 1918, with Miss Lutie Westcott as its first president. The Chautauqua of 1919 opened on May 5th with a concert by Rosa Ponselle, and other artists heard before its closing on May 17th were Sophie Braslau, Madame Schuman-Heink, Mischa Elman, Josef Hofmann, and Giovanni Martinelli. Especially outstanding, too, were the artists presented during the 1920 season, May 5-15th. This Chautauqua brought to the city the Russian Symphony Orchestra, pianist Mischa Levitski, and a return of violinist Mischa Elman. This was the last of such festivals as the 1921 Chautauqua was called off because of the lack of appropriate auditorium facilities. However, the city continued to attract such artists as Geraldine Farrar, Fritz Kreisler, and Madame Galli-Curci, all of whom appeared during 1921.

Several years later after much discussion of the desirability of hearing Grand Opera in Macon, the Chamber of Commerce endorsed the presentation of a week of opera and named R. L. McKenney to be general chairman of a committee to form an organization to promote opera in the city. With this as a starting point the Macon Grand Opera Association was formally organized on July 22, 1927, with R. L. McKenney as president; Morris Michael, Ralph Birdsey, and Joseph Maerz, vice-presidents; R. A. McCord, treasurer; and W. E. Cobb, secretary. In October an executive committee of this body was

empowered to sign a contract with an opera company. By the action of these men—R. L. McKenney, Morris Michael, Joseph Maerz, P. L. Hay, J. A. Porter, J. A. Flournoy, and Robert H. Williams—the San Carlos Opera Company was brought to Macon with a repertoire of eight operas beginning with "Aida" and closing with "Il Trovatore". The performances were given during the week beginning January 9, 1928. The venture was successful, and the association made a profit of a little more than $3,000. A contract with the same company was signed almost at once for a week beginning January 7, 1929, this time opening with "Rigoletto" and closing with "Lucia de Lammermoor". The association this time had a deficit of $7,000 which had to be made up partly by subscription and partly by assessment of the guarantors. Opera in Macon received a final blow in November of 1929 when the Pennsylvania Grand Opera Company staged five operas at the auditorium. The season was far from successful, due partly to poor economic conditions and partly to heavy losses of the company which had affected its cast. This marked the last attempt to bring opera to Macon during an extended season for two decades.

In the field of local talent, two Macon concert singers won recognition in the field of opera. They were Miss Fredonia Frazier and Mrs. Mary Wes Craig Pigueron, both of whom began to sing in opera during the twenties. At the same time the Macon Symphony Orchestra under the direction of J. Varnon Stanger gave a number of excellent concerts. This group also sponsored a production of "Pinafore" with local talent which was given high praise.

Several attempts were made to revive interest in amateur dramatics during the twenties. The first of these attempts was the organization on March 2, 1920, of the Macon Dramatic Club with twenty-five members headed by Harry Robert as president. Its published purpose was the study of drama with occasional presentation of plays. The club presented at least one play as the *Telegraph* reports a performance of Shaw's "You Never Can Tell" on June 2, 1921. During the same year a group of high school juniors and seniors formed a Junior Dramatic Club naming Clara Kinney as president, and they presented several plays at the Wesleyan Conservatory auditorium. On December 16, 1921, the group gave "Every Girl", and on March 26, 1922, a double feature of "Man Proposes" and 'Best Laid Plans". A final effort in the field of amateur play production was the beginning of a Little Theater whose organization was started at an open meeting at the Dempsey Hotel on October 7, 1929, and was completed on October 13th. Mrs. W. D. Lamar was elected president of the organization, and it was the plan of the group to present plays under the direction of Mrs. Willa Holt Wakefield a retired actress living in the city. However, due to several difficulties encountered one of which was their inability to find a suitable theater, no plays were ever produced by the group

which finally disbanded. It is of interest primarily because a number of people who were members of it were also instrumental in founding the much more successful organization of the thirties.

In the field of literature duing the post-war years, Macon was also making its contribution. A young Macon woman, Mrs. Helen Topping Miller whose husband was secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, was winning recognition as a successful writer of fiction. Another former Maconite, Laurence Stallings, brought out a new book called "Plumes" in 1924, and collaborated with Maxwell Anderson on the Broadway success "What Price Glory". A year later the autobiography of Ex-Governor Nat E. Harris was published locally. Two of Harry Stillwell Edwards' novels, "Sons and Fathers" and "The Marbeau Cousins" ran serially in the local newspaper at different times. On April 23, 1926, the Macon Better Films Committee held a joint celebration of his birthday and that of Shakespeare at the Saturday Morning Matinee. Included on the program were a one-reel showing of "The Merchant of Venice" and the stage presentation of the wedding scene from "Aenas Africanus". Then Harry Stillwell Edwards made a brief speech.

Another Macon writer received signal recognition during these post-war years. In August, 1927, at the request of the Cavalry Episcopal Church in Fletcher, North Carolina, the city began the collection of funds to erect a bronze tablet to honor Sidney Lanier in the Open Air Westminster Abbey of the South at that place. Designated to receive funds were Edward Shorter, Oliver Orr, and Mrs. Piercy Chestney. In its final form this memorial was a granite boulder five feet high bearing a twenty inch bronze inscription telling of Lanier's visit to the church on August 4, 1881, and it was unveiled on September 9, 1928, by Miss Anne LeConte Holmes of Macon. Frank Branan was in charge of local arrangements. A quartet of Macon musicians sang two anthems in the service held in the church just before the unveiling. A specially composed flute solo, "From the Marshes" by Joseph Maerz, was played, and Mrs. Walter D. Lamar made an address on Lanier. Mrs. William Wood, owner at that time of Lanier's birthplace in Macon, placed a wreath of flowers and grasses from his beloved Marshes of Glynn before the boulder that stands as a memorial of the poet.

Although no member of the Lanier family could be present for the North Carolina memorial service, the poet's grandson, Sterling Lanier, unveiled another memorial to the beloved writer in Macon on February 3, 1929. This was a bust of Lanier placed in a specially built semi-circular niche in the Washington Memorial Library, and it was unveiled on the 87th anniversary of the poet's birth. The work of Gutzon Borglum, the statue was presented by the Sidney Lanier Memorial Association. Mrs. Walter D. Lamar, president of the association,

made the speech of presentation after an address by Dr. Edwin Mims of Vanderbilt University titled "Sidney Lanier, the Prophet" and another by Gutzon Borglum, "Lanier, the Conscious Artist". Again the flute solo "From the Marshes" was played.

XIV. Looking Backward

When one looks back over a period such as that following the first World War, there are many significant facts of city history that should be told. Surely the visit of such a man as Eamon De Valera, president of the Irish Republic, cannot be overlooked. In a speech made in Macon on April 24, 1920, he denounced the British government for "its imperialism and brutality" in ruling Ireland.

A train carrying President-Elect Warren G. Harding to St. Augustine for a fishing trip stopped briefly in Macon on January 22, 1921. However, because of the lateness of the hour, greetings were extended only in the form of a note sent by the Chamber of Commerce. Another politician, William G. McAdoo who was a Democratic candidate for presidential nomination appeared in the city on March 15, 1924, and he declared himself against the Ku Klux Klan and Wall Street and for the first amendment to the Constitution in a speech before a Macon audience.

William Jennings Bryan made a different sort of speech to the Pastors' Institute at Wesleyan College when he spoke in May, 1924, on the truth of the Bible. Other prominent visitors to the city shortly afterwards were the authors, Carl van Doren and Charles A. Beard. Both were in Macon during January, 1926, the former for a lecture at Wesleyan College, and the latter in the guise of a tourist collecting material for a history of American cultural movements.

These were years of many large scale expositions. It seemed for a time that the holding of annual fairs would stop, but this institution was born again with the formation of the Georgia State Exposition and the election of E. G. Jacobs as its president in February, 1923. The auditorium was the scene of such expositions as the "Pure Food Show" in April, 1922, and the "Own Your Own Home" show in June, 1922. An "Exposition of Progress" opened on March 19, 1926. It depicted the progress of Macon. The Chamber of Commerce for a time from 1921-1924 edited a monthly publication called the *Macon Magazine* which was designed to tell about Macon institutions and to advertise the city.

It is not possible in a brief survey of these years to cover all phases of hospital development, but mention should be made of one new department of the Macon Hospital and of the starting of two new hospitals. The Macon Hospital added a Department of Pathology on February 9, 1919. Captain David A. Gregory was named first pathologist, and it was he who was allowed to equip the pathology laboratory.

In July, 1920, a group of doctors including Dr. A. R. Rozar, Dr. Thomas H. Hall, Dr. Herbert Respess, Dr. J. L. King, and Dr. C. L. Walker applied for a charter to operate the Oglethorpe Private Sanitarium. They leased the old Wimberly home on the corner of Tattnall and Oglethorpe Streets and remodeled it into a twenty bed hospital. This institution is now operating as Mercy Hospital.

The Clinic Hospital remodeled the house on Walnut Street near Second, built in 1829, by Dr. Ambrose Baber, for its new home. It began operation in 1920. Some of its earliest directors were Dr. Harry Moses, Dr. G. Y. Massenburg, Dr. D. T. Henderson, and Dr. J. C. McAfee.

About this time there was much adverse comment about a Tourist Camp which had sprung up in Central City Park. It was the day of the so-called "tin can tourist", and often as many as a hundred persons were camping nightly in the park. There were no tourist camps, and tourists stayed in the park instead of going to hotels. There was some idea of trying to improve facilities for camping and charging a small fee for the use of the park, but the advent of the tourist camp made Council decide in 1926 to close what had become an unsightly spot. So the tourist camp in the park was ended on March 23, 1926.

During 1926 the custom of having large scale flower shows began. The first one held in the show rooms of T. C. Burke on May 15, 1926, was sponsored by the Flower Club of the Bibb County Home Demonstration Council under the presidency of Mrs. N. A. Powers, Sr.

Another civic custom, that of lighting the streets decoratively at the Christmas season, was instituted in 1928. A joint undertaking of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Merchants Bureau, the lights were turned on for the first time on December 14, 1928. This was followed on Christmas Eve with a mass carol sing on the steps of the Municipal Auditorium following a custom begun by the Saturday Morning Music Club in 1912.

In the realm of sports these years witnessed the rise of W. L. Stribling, prize fighter, to what some people called the peak of his career when he lost to Sharkey by a decision on February 27, 1929. Baseball fans were shocked on July 14, 1927, by the death of a player, Raymond Mann, who was killed by a blow from a pitched ball during a local game. Later on June 13, 1929, Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis, Commissioner of Organized Baseball, tossed out the first ball in a game that dedicated the new $60,000 ball park and grandstand which had been erected by the city in Central City Park through an agreement with the Brooklyn ball club to lease it annually at $4,000 rental fee.

The weather came in for its share of consideration on at least two occasions. Heavy damage resulted from a storm, almost cyclonic in force, on March 29, 1920. Then on April 30, 1924, three people were killed by a tornado that struck in the Mikado area and around Skipperton. The tornado then twisted across to the Camp Wheeler

area, and fortunately this area was not at the time heavily settled so further damage was prevented.

When the twenties drew to a close two large civic endeavors were in progress. One of these was the construction of a replica of Fort Hawkins on its original location. The other was a move toward the establishment of the Ocmulgee National Monument. Dr. C. C. Harrold and General Walter Harris were pioneers in this move. An invitation was extended to the Smithsonian Institute to visit the local Indian mounds to determine their historic value. A Smithsonian expert, M. W. Sterling, made a visit during April, 1929, and his report recommended that the mounds be opened under archaeological supervision.

Finally as the twenties drew to a close there were definite signs of the approaching economic depression. There had been numerous bank failures throughout the country, and unemployment was increasing. In fact, Mayor Toole had opened a local unemployment bureau in the City Hall shortly after his term of office began to try to solve the problem on a local scale. Then in November, 1929, the stock market after a series of falls and rises crashed to an all-time low, and Macon with the nation entered upon a different sort of decade.

Macon's Mayors and Aldermen — 1901-1929

1901
Mayor—Bridges Smith
1st Ward
Charles D. Pearson
Charles E. Damour
J. C. Van Syckel
2nd Ward
L. W. Hollingsworth
W. A. Wilder
Thomas F. Sheridan
3rd Ward
Sam Mayer
Ed. S. Curd
Mallory H. Taylor
4th Ward
W. T. Morgan
David W. Hill
John T. Moore

1902
Mayor—Brdiges Smith
1st Ward
Charles D. Pearson
Charles E. Damour
Reb Massenburg
2nd Ward
L. W. Hollingsworth
W. A. Wilder
W. H. Burdick
3rd Ward
Sam Mayer
W. J. Massee
Morris Happ
4th Ward
R. L. Willis
David W. Hill
J. M. Redmond

1903
Mayor—Bridges Smith
1st Ward
Charles E. Damour
Reb Masseuburg
T. O. Chestney
2nd Ward
W. A. Wilder
W. H. Burdick
W. A. McKenna
3rd Ward
W. J. Massee
Morris Happ
Ben L. Jones
4th Ward
R. L. Willis
J. M. Redmond
W. W. Williams

1904
Mayor—Bridges Smith
1st Ward
Charles E. Damour
Reb Massenburg
T. O. Chestney
2nd Ward
W. A. Wilder
W. H. Burdick
W. A. McKenna
3rd Ward
W. J. Massee
Morris Happ
Ben L. Jones
4th Ward
J. M. Redmond
W. W. Williams
W. H. Sloan

1905
Mayor—Bridges Smith
1st Ward
Charles E. Damour
F. A. Guttenberger
T. O. Chestney
2nd Ward
W. A. Wilder
Joseph B. Melton
W. A. McKenna
3rd Ward
W. J. Massee
Leon S. Dure
Ben L. Jones
4th Ward
J. M. Redmond
W. W. Williams
W. H. Sloan

1906
Mayor—Bridges Smith
1st Ward
T. O. Chestney
Jesse B. Hart
J. Ross Bowdre
2nd Ward
W. A. McKenna
Joseph B. Melton
N. I. Brunner
3rd Ward
W. J. Massee
Leon S. Dure
A. E. Barnes
4th Ward
W. W. Williams
W. H. Sloan
R. C. Hazlehurst

1907
Mayor—Bridges Smith
1st Ward
T. O. Chestney
Jesse B. Hart
J. Ross Bowdre
2nd Ward
W. A. McKenna
Joseph B. Melton
N. I. Brunner
3rd Ward
Leon S. Dure
A. E. Barnes
W. D. Griffith
4th Ward
W. W. Williams
W. H. Sloan
Malcolm D. Jones

1908
Mayor—A. L. Miller
1st Ward
H. C. Robert
E. D. Williams
J. W. Snow
2nd Ward
G. L. Bright
N. I. Brunner
D. R. Swisher
3rd Ward
Sam Mayer
J. E. Hall
A. E. Chappell
4th Ward
J. B. Riley
C. R. Adams
W. P. Wheeler

1909
Mayor—A. L. Miller
1st Ward
H. C. Robert
E. D. Williams
J. W. Snow
2nd Ward
G. L. Bright
N. I. Brunner
D. R. Swisher
3rd Ward
Sam Mayer
J. E. Hall
A. E. Chappell
4th Ward
J. B. Riley
C. B. Adams
W. P. Wheeler

1910
Mayor—John T. Moore
1st Ward
T. O. Chestney
J. Ross Bowdre
P. D. Stamps
2nd Ward
Eli Elkan
W. A. McKenna
N. I. Brunner
3rd Ward
W. T. Anderson
Steve Wright
Will Gunn
4th Ward
W. H. Fetner
Eden Taylor, Jr.
J. B. Riley

1911
Mayor—John T. Moore
1st Ward
T. O. Chestney
J. Ross Bowdre
P. D. Stamps
2nd Ward
Eli Elkan
W. A. McKenna
N. I. Brunner
3rd Ward
W. T. Anderson
Steve Wright
Will Gunn
4th Ward
W. H. Fetner
Eden Taylor, Jr.
J. B. Riley

1912
Mayor—John T. Moore
1st Ward
T. O. Chestney
J. Ross Bowdre
P. L. Hay
2nd Ward
W. A. McKenna
E. A. Adamson
Jonathan B. Reeves
3rd Ward
Steve Wright
W. W. Williams
Lee M. Happ
4th Ward
A. L. Dasher
Gustav Bernd
R. S. Thorpe

1913
(Same slate as 1912)

1914
Mayor—Bridges Smith
1st Ward
Charles W. Schaefer
F. M. Jones
P. L. Hay
2nd Ward
B. F. Merritt
W. O. Stevens
W. R. Evans
3rd Ward
Steve Wright
W. G. Lee
H. W. Pittman
4th Ward
R. C. Hazlehurst
Eden Taylor, Jr.
J. B. Riley

1915

Mayor—Bridges Smith

1st Ward
Charles W. Schaefer
F. M. Jones
P. L. Hay

2nd Ward
B. F. Merritt
W. O. Stevens
W. R. Evans

3rd Ward
Steve Wright
W. G. Lee
H. W. Pittman

4th Ward
R. L. Stroberg
Eden Taylor, Jr.
J. B. Riley

1916

Mayor—Bridges Smith

1st Ward
Charles E. Brunner
F. M. Jones
Fred W. Williams

2nd Ward
E. A. Adamson
W. R. Evans
W. H. C. Johnson

3rd Ward
William C. Miller
W. T. Morgan
Ben S. Persons

4th Ward
John L. Anderson
R. E. Findlay
R. S. Thorpe

1917

(Same slate as 1916)

1918

Mayor—G. Glen Toole

1st Ward
J. R. Frink
J. A. Mitchell
S. G. Ryle

2nd Ward
J. M. Haden
B. F. Merritt
John C. Wyche

3rd Ward
C. H. Hunnicutt
William J. Little
R. L. Smith

4th Ward
B. J. Dasher
R. E. Findlay
B. F. Sutton

1919

(Same slate as 1918)

1920

Mayor—G. Glen Toole

1st Ward
G. P. Rankin
J. A. Mitchell
Luther Williams

2nd Ward
J. M. Haden
B. F. Merritt
John C. Wyche

3rd Ward
A. N. Hummel
William J. Little
R. L. Smith

4th Ward
B. J. Dasher
Morris Michael
B. F. Sutton

1921

(Same slate as 1920)

1922

Mayor—Luther Williams

1st Ward
W. L. Collier
Charles S. Joiner
G. P. Rankin

2nd Ward
Frank Branan
E. R. Layfield
B. F. Merritt

3rd Ward
M. E. Elliott
James E. Yates
Mrs. Charles C. Harrold

4th Ward
Ben J. Dasher
R. E. Findlay
J. W. Ramsey

1923

Mayor—Luther Williams

1st Ward
W. L. Collier
Charles S. Joiner
G. P. Rankin

2nd Ward
R. T. Chappel
E. R. Layfield
B. F. Merritt

3rd Ward
M. E. Goode
James E. Yates
Mrs. Charles C. Harrold

4th Ward
Ben J. Dasher
R. E. Findlay
J. W. Ramsey

1924

Mayor—Luther Williams

1st Ward
W. L. Collier
Charles S. Joiner
G. P. Rankin

2nd Ward
R. T. Chappel
E. R. Layfield
G. F. Gilleland, Jr.

3rd Ward
M. E. Goode
James E. Yates
Mrs. Charles C. Harrold

4th Ward
Ben J. Dasher
R. E. Findlay
S. L. Orr

1925

Mayor—Luther Williams

1st Ward
W. L. Collier
Charles S. Joiner
G. P. Rankin

2nd Ward
R. T. Chappel
E. R. Layfield
G. F. Gilleland, Jr.

3rd Ward
M. E. Goode
James E. Yates
Mrs. Charles C. Harrold

4th Ward
Ben J. Dasher
R. G. Williams
S. L. Orr

1926

Mayor—Wallace Miller

1st Ward
J. Newton Barnes
C. W. Schaefer
T. H. Halliburton

2nd Ward
Joe H. Brown
Arthur F. Newton
C. R. Smalling

3rd Ward
Morris Michael
Eden Taylor, Jr.
Mrs. Charles C. Harrold

4th Ward
Wilbur M. Collins
J. D. Crump
Roy G. Williams

1927

Mayor—Wallace Miller

1st Ward
J. Newton Barnes
F. W. Williams
T. H. Halliburton

2nd Ward
Joe H. Brown
Arthur F. Newton
C. R. Smalling

3rd Ward
Morris Michael
Eden Taylor, Jr.
Mrs. Charles C. Harrold

4th Ward
Wilbur M. Collins
J. D. Crump
Roy G. Williams

1928

Mayor—Luther Williams

1st Ward
S. S. Chandler
DeWitt McCrary
Harry D. Smith

2nd Ward
Charles L. Bowden
Y. R. Coleman
E. R. Layfield

3rd Ward
Robert G. Jordan
C. H. Hunnicutt
W. T. Tharpe

4th Ward
T. T. Carstarphen
Mrs. W. O. Kinney
B. F. Merritt

1929

(Same slate as 1928)

CHAPTER VIII

MACON BECOMES A METROPOLITAN CITY

During the past twenty years, Macon has enjoyed a phenomenal growth and development. This has occurred despite the fact that the early years of this period included one of the worst depressions ever experienced. Most of the activity which has marked this transformation of Macon from a big "country town" to a hustling, modern "metropolitan city" has taken place within the past ten years, and is either directly or indirectly related with defense activities during the war or with post-war projects and industrial expansion since V-E and V-J days.

Macon's population and area have practically doubled during the past ten years. In 1939, the population of the city was 68,500. In 1949, it had increased to 100,814. During the war years when thousands of soldiers, defense workers, and their families were located here, it was estimated that the city's population reached more than one-fourth of a million persons. Ten years ago, the area of the city proper was 8.16 square miles. By 1949, however, with the extension of the city limits to two large suburban sections, Macon's area had more than doubled, embracing a total of 17.48 square miles. Other trends of expansion and prosperity during this era are reflected in the following comparisons: bank clearings jumped from $45,000,000 in 1939 to $185,000,000 in 1949; bank deposits increased from $14,000,000 to $63,000,000; retail sales advanced from $24,000,000 to $103,000,000; postal savings increased from $858,402 to $4,325,000; industrial payrolls showed an eight-fold advance, increasing from $4,000,000 to $32,000,000 during the ten years; the value of property within the city almost doubled, jumping from $38,000,000 to $67,000,000; the number of telephones sky-rocketed from 11,000 to 29,000; industrial jobs in the city increased from 6,556 to 16,000. The above facts and figures were released during November, 1949, in a report from Walter S. Cates, executive director of the Macon Chamber of Commerce, which appropriately termed the period "a decade of real progress".

Politics — City Administrations

The year 1930 brought forth a second administration for G. Glen Toole. Toole had previously been Mayor of Macon and was re-elected in November, 1929, for a second term. Others who were elected with him included Herbert Smart, Mayor Pro-tem; first ward—Dewitt Mc-

Crary, Sam S. Chandler, and J. Milton Heard; second ward—Charles L. Bowden, E. R. Layfield, and B. I. Waller, Jr.; third ward—A. J. Flowers, H. W. Pittman, and Herbert Smart; fourth ward—Calder B. Clay, Mrs. W. O. Kinney, and B. F. Merritt. One of the main features of the Toole Administration was a city beautification program. Very little attention had been given to the city parks prior to this time. Vast park grounds which had been left to the city by the Bacon estate were grown over and undeveloped. About this time, the Atlanta Gas and Light Company applied for permission to lay gas mains in the city. Mayor Toole conceived the idea of letting the mains go through the parks on Mulberry and Third Streets rather than putting them under the pavement as originally planned. This saved the Gas Company a sizeable sum of money and, as a token of their appreciation, they gave the city a sum of money which the administration used for developing the parks. The Mayor was of the opinion that since the money had come from the use of the parks that it should be returned to them and used to beautify and develop them, and accordingly, he carried out a vigorous and energetic program of beautification.

After visiting many beautiful parks throughout the country, Mayor Toole saw one park in Chicago which reminded him of the location directly below Wesleyan Conservatory, and from this, he formulated the plans which were used in building beautiful Washington Memorial Park. He also began improvement at Baconsfield Park, where he planned to have every known variety of camellia planted, interspersed with azaleas and other flowering shrubs.

In 1932, Toole was re-elected Mayor with no change in the city administration. At this time, with the help of the W.P.A., he undertook many projects throughout the community, but he was still primarily concerned with making the city more beautiful. W.P.A. workers went to work in Baconsfield and other parks. They build bridges, cleared grounds, and started work against erosion. Mayor Toole never faltered in his efforts to make Macon more beautiful and for this reason he was dubbed the "champion of city parks".

1934 brought forth a new administration with Herbert Smart as its leader. Smart was assisted by Calder Clay, who was elected Mayor Pro-tem. Aldermen included the following: first ward—Sam S. Chandler, Milton Heard, and Dewitt McCrary; second ward—Charles L. Bowden, E. R. Layfield, and B. I. Waller, Jr.; third ward—A. J. Flowers, H. W. Pittman, and Henry Harris; and fourth ward—Calder B. Clay, Harry D. Chapman, and C. Gray Walden.

Since Middle Georgians, as well as citizens from every other section of the country, were at this time suffering from the nation's worst depression, this administration had a serious economic problem to solve. Hundreds of local citizens were without work and virtually penniless, while many others were fast becoming dependent on such agencies as the F.E.R.A., W.P.A., C.W.A., N.R.A., P.W.A., and others

of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "new deal" program, Macon citizens were soon given emergency employment which provided some form of livelihood and a certain degree of respectability.

Many important projects were completed under the direction of these relief organizations. Some of these included the repairing and remodeling of the City Hall and Fire Department headquarters; the construction of Herbert Smart airport; the remodeling of Price Public Library; the rebuilding of the city stockade and incinerator; the renovation of Hopewell Orphanage; and the addition of more space to the Macon Hospital. So complete was the cooperation of the City with the Federal government that the two together created work which required approximately 5,000,000 man hours of labor during the early thirties.

Herbert Smart was re-elected Mayor of Macon in 1936. The only changes that occurred in the city administration were the replacement of Calder B. Clay as Mayor Pro-tem by Charles L. Bowden; the replacement of A. J. Flowers as councilman from the first ward by Robert Gamble; and the replacement of C. Gray Walden in the fourth ward by T. T. Carstarphen. Mr. Smart's second administration, as was the previous one, continued to be plagued with financial difficulties. Although the assistance of the Federal agencies had greatly aided the community and its citizens, many problems still remained to be solved. However, it is interesting to note at this time that, in spite of the depression, the revenues of the city jumped from $868,722.56 in 1933 to $893,912.37 in 1936, thus indicating that a normal rise in income had followed an apparent slump or depression. During this period, Mayor Smart again utilized the services of the W.P.A. in remodeling the Macon water works, the city garages, and the sewer system. A tuberculosis clinic was also constructed, and several important city thoroughfares were paved and improved.

One of the most important of the Federal projects around Macon was the development and renovation of the Indian Mounds. Macon citizens had carelessly regarded the mounds as an old Indian "graveyard", and had taken nothing more than a momentary interest in this vital and interesting echo of Macon's past. Government archaeologists found many connecting links at the mounds which assisted them in making definite and accurate statements concerning the customs and habits of the Southern Creek Indians. This has now become a Federal Park known as the "Ocmulgee National Monument" and is one of the richest evidences of pre-historic America that may be found anywhere in the East. Many tourists are attracted annually to Macon to visit this shrine of American life as it existed more than nine centuries ago.

In 1938, a new administration came into the City Hall, which, with but few exceptions, was to remain there for a decade. This ten-year period under Charles L. Bowden and his administration has rightly been called "Macon's decade of progress". Starting off with Mayor

Bowden in 1938 were Henry W. Pittman, Mayor Pro-tem; first ward—J. D. Blair, J. L. Owings, and Dewitt McCrary; second ward—Taylor D. Kemper, Clarence E. Odom, and B. I. Waller, Jr.; third ward—Mrs. Charles C. Harrold, Henry Harris, and H. W. Pittman; and fourth ward—Harry C. Stewart, Harry D. Chapman, and T. T. Carstarphen.

Mayor Bowden's primary interest upon assuming office was to formulate a plan and follow a policy which enabled the city to liquidate a long-standing debt which it had acquired. This debt had been incurred down through the years and at the time of his election amounted to considerably more than a million dollars. The new Mayor realized that his task was a difficult one, and immediately began exploring means to both economize and at the same time begin increasing the city's revenue. The first move of his administration was to lower the rate of interest on the money which had been borrowed. This was accomplished by issuing certain "funding certificates" at a rate of one percent annually. With this money, the city repaid the bonded debt, which was drawing approximately six percent interest annually. A saving of five percent interest was thus realized each year.

In 1940, the Bowden Administration was re-elected intact, but in 1942, John L. Owings replaced H. W. Pittman as Mayor Pro-tem, and in the third ward, J. A. Jones and T. M. Jones replaced Henry Harris and H. W. Pittman, respectively. Paying the city's debt was by far the most outstanding accomplishments of Mayor Bowden's administration, but many improvements such as improving and paving city streets, beautifying city parks, and adding to the hospital facilities were also made.

Mayor Bowden began his fifth consecutive term as head of the city government in 1946. John L. Owings was again elected Mayor Pro-tem. Dan Tidwell replaced J. D. Blair in the first ward, and Joe Merritt replaced Harry D. Chapman in the fourth ward. During the ten years that Bowden held office as Mayor, the city was substantially expanding in population, public utilities, health and sanitary agencies, and police and fire protection. Not only was the city run on a very business-like basis, but for the first time in 89 years, Macon's city government was completely out of debt. In addition to this, the Bowden Administration, upon leaving office, left sufficient funds in the city treasury for the incoming administration to operate until new taxes could be collected. This was a precedent-setting gesture, which was both appropriate and in keeping with the record of this unusual administration.

Lewis B. Wilson succeeded Bowden as Mayor in 1948. Dan Tidwell became Mayor Pro-tem in an election which saw, with but one exception, a complete change in the aldermanic slate. Wilson defeated B. F. Merritt in a close and spirited election. Unusual interest was injected into the election since this was the first time in the history of the city that Negroes were given the suffrage privilege in the city primary. The Negro vote was cast in a solid block for the Wilson slate and was directly

responsible for the election of a number of the nominees on the Wilson ticket. The following aldermen were chosen to serve with Mayor Wilson: first ward—W. O. Jones, J. O. Morgan, and Dan Tidwell; second ward—J. H. Pittman, W. F. Spikes, and C. R. Holloway; third ward—Walter S. Boone, A. Mack Dodd, and Stanley Elkan; and fourth ward—W. J. Cassidy, M. L. Leggett, and L. W. Lewis.

The greatest accomplishment of the Wilson administration has been the promotion of a program of city expansion which has resulted in the annexation of the Ingleside-North Vineville and Shirley Hills-North Highlands areas. The administration has also attempted to induce other areas, particularly the South Macon and Bellevue sections, to join the municipality, but has been unsuccessful to date in elections held for this purpose. The acquisition of Cochran Field by the city, the completion of a municipal swimming pool in North Highlands, improvements to Porter Stadium, expansion of the bed capacity at the Macon Hospital, and enlargement of the city's sewer system have been noteworthy projects of the Wilson Administration.

Mayor Wilson has also put into operation a housing project at Cochran Field, which accommodates 250 families; has recently let the contract for a $56,000 Negro swimming pool; and with the county help has secured Federal funds to finance the work on an Ocmulgee River levee, which is being constructed at a cost of $300,000. The Mayor has also been an ambassador of good will to many of the neighboring towns and villages where he has capitalized on his reputation as a prestidigitator.[1]

Although having no official connection with the city government since he has never offered himself as a candidate, Washington Dessau, prominent realtor and businessman, has created considerable color and comment at council meetings in recent years, with his interest in the business of the city. Mr. Dessau is reputed to have attended more meetings than some of the regular aldermen and has often been referred to as "Macon's thirteenth councilman".

In an election held on November 8, 1949, Mayor Wilson and his entire aldermanic slate, plus three new councilmen from the newly formed fifth ward,—Robert M. Young, C. R. Rader, and John Anderson,—were returned to office without opposition. In addition to the Mayor and his council, other officials of the present city government include the following: Mrs. Viola Ross Napier, clerk; Frank Branan, treasurer; William Branan, Jr., engineer; Ed Sell, attorney; Charles B. Humphries, electrical engineer; W. P. Gaillard, marshal; William T. Moseley, chairman tax assessors; Roy B. Rhodenhiser, Jr., recorder; C. A. Parker, building inspector; Mrs. Annie McAfee Oliphant, purchasing agent; D. C. Glendenning, license inspector; Dr. W. W. Merriwether, physician; Ben T. Watkins, chief of police; Bernard H. Brown, fire chief; and Robert L. Miller, chief of detectives.

1. Paper by Harry Lamon, Jr., "Politics in Macon Since 1930".

The present county government is composed of the following personnel: Calder B. Clay, chairman, Lawrence J. Brown, J. W. Denson, Kenneth Dunwody, and Edgar B. Meaders, county commissioners; Mrs. Agnes Freeney, treasurer; Fenley Ryther, engineer; Howard D. Cutter, surveyor; Dan Dunwody, tax commissioner; Dr. R. Frank Cary, health officer; Mrs. Sara J. Carter, director of public welfare; Dr. Mark A. Smith, superintendent of schools; Richard S. Dillard, superintendent of county home; Harry E. Nottingham, probation officer; E. Julian Peacock, sheriff; Charles H. Garrett, solicitor general; William M. West, assistant solicitor general; Romas Ed Raley, clerk Superior Court; Judge A. M. Anderson, civil court judge; Judge Mallory C. Atkinson, criminal court judge; Oscar Long, solicitor city court; Judge Cecil A. Baldwin, judge city court; Harry Burns, clerk city court; Judge R. Douglas Feagin, municipal court judge; Ernest Hooker, clerk municipal court; Judge Benning Grice, juvenile court judge; Paul Haverfield, probation officer; Walter C. Stevens, ordinary; Joe Stripling, jailer; L. H. Chapman, coroner; D. F. Bruce, county agent; Miss Frances Lowe, home demonstration agent; J. Ellsworth Hall, county attorney; and Nathan Albert, superintendent of building. Bibb County's present representatives to the state legislature include Reginald Trice, Lawton Miller, and Horace Vandiver.

Of recent political significance was the role played by Charles J. Bloch, local attorney, at the national democratic convention in Philadelphia during the Summer of 1948, at which time he placed the name of Senator Richard B. Russell in nomination for the presidency of the United States. Thousands of Maconites listened over the radio to the nomination address of Mr. Bloch, and expressed keen interest and hearty approval of his stand. The nomination of a Macon Negro, Larkin Marshall, by the Progressive Party as a candidate for senator from Georgia also created a ripple in Macon's political waters during the year 1948.

One of the most successful projects ever launched in the county involving the vote of the people was the $2,500,000 school bond program, which was headed by Wallace Miller, chairman of the Board of Education, and Dr. Mark Smith, superintendent of schools. While many communities were defeating increased expenditures for such programs, the people of Bibb County, by a ten to one margin, overwhelmingly pledged their support for local education. This election was held early in 1948, and as a result of it, several new schools have been constructed and a program of general expansion promoted by the board of education.

Macon's Contribution to World War II

During the years of World War II, Macon did many things to help in the United States' cause. She had more than her share of vital industries. Included among these were some eight textile mills which in some way helped to produce more than 11,000 different articles used

by the Army alone. These textile products ranked second only to steel in their importance to the Army. These mills manufactured approximately 500,000 pounds of textile products per week. Included among the various articles were the following: flame-proof tents, airplane engine cover, water repellent packs, bags, ammunition dump covers, etc., water-proof leggings, incendiary bomb fire hoses, fabric for tires, pistol belts, navy and jungle hammocks, mildew-proof sewing twine for sandbags, ammunition belts, airplane safety belts, cannon shell cases, parachute harnesses, camouflage nets, cartridge belts, some articles of clothing, and rifle slings.

Five vital military installations, constructed at a cost of approximately $38,000,000, were located in Macon during this period. Camp Wheeler, the nation's largest replacement center, was the first to be located here. This big infantry camp was brought to Macon through the efforts of local businessmen and the cooperation of Congressman Carl Vinson, and was located in Macon because of the city's centralization in the state and the ideal climatic conditions for a complete year-round training schedule. Construction on this huge infantry base was begun in December, 1940, and completed the following year. The camp was erected at a cost to the government of over $10,000,000, and was constructed to accommodate as many as 30,000 men at one time. Its first commander was Brigadier General A. R. Emery, for whom the main drive to the camp, Emery Highway, was named upon its completion. Camp Wheeler was recognized as having the finest lay-out and operation plan of all the army camps in the United States. A total of 217,384 trainees received their basic military instruction at this camp. Since the war, the camp has been deactivated and most of the physical property dismantled and removed.

Besides Camp Wheeler, four other military installations were located in the Macon area. The Naval Ordnance Plant, which employed up to 8,000 people from Macon and surrounding small towns during the war, was built during 1941 at a cost of approximately $5,000,000. The "fuse plant", as it was popularly called, was concerned with the making of detonators and fuses for bombs and other types of explosives. Captain A. L. Lindloff was originally in command of this installation. This plant is still in operation, and also serves as the headquarters for the naval reserve training program in Macon. Cochran Field, a basic flying training school, was constructed several miles south of the city proper during 1941 at a cost of $2,000,000. Among the first airmen to receive training at this field were young cadets representing the R.A.F. of Great Britain. These visitors proved very popular with Middle Georgians, and a number of them married girls from several prominent Macon families. Major D. D. Fitzgerald was the first commanding officer at Cochran Field. On August 20th, 1941, construction was started at Warner Robins, one of the ten Army Air Corps depots in the United States. Over 3,000 workers were employed to build the huge base which was con-

structed at a cost of $15,000,000 to the government. Brigadier General Charles E. Thomas was the original commanding officer of this installation, and at one time during the war, as many as 15,000 civilian workers, in addition to military personnel, were employed. Out of the peach orchards, pecan groves, and cotton fields, an entire new town mushroomed into existence, and it is estimated that the total area of the depot plus the town of Warner Robins is greater than that of Macon itself. This air base is considered a permanent air corps installation and continues to employ more than 6,000 civilian employees at the present time. An entire new air force was recently transferred to this base from Orlando, Florida. Another air corps installation which was enlarged and operated by the government during the war was the Herbert Smart airport. Approximately $1,000,000 was spent by the government for improving and transforming this airfield into a military base.[2]

Macon school children were very active in supporting the war effort. One day in every week was set aside as war bond and stamp day, and hundreds of children purchased thousands of dollars worth of stamps and bonds. The children also gathered over 10,000,000 pounds of scrap metal, newspapers, and tin cans for which they won the state scrap salvage award. Dr. Mark Smith, Bibb school superintendent, received a special commendation for his work in supervising and directing these activities in the public schools. Macon citizens contributed liberally with their savings and earnings in the purchase of war bonds and stamps, and during the course of the war, a total of $22,558,668 was directed toward this purpose.

As had been the custom in previous wars dating back for over a hundred years in the history of the city, the Macon Volunteers, now a vital part of the Georgia National Guard, were among the first to offer their services and march away in defense of their country. Most of Macon's citizen soldiers were now members of the 30th Division of the National Guard, which was commanded by Major General Henry D. Russell, prominent local attorney and civic leader. England and Germany went to war on September 1st, 1939. Three days later, on September 4th, the commanding officers of the National Guard held their first meeting to discuss preparations for any emergencies which might later face this country. Macon men were represented in the headquarters of the 30th Division, the 121st Infantry Regiment, and the 59th Infantry Brigade. Plans for mobilization were discussed, and the following year these organizations participated in the war games with the United States Army in Louisiana and Mississippi. On September 16th, 1940, Macon's National Guard, along with others throughout the country, was inducted into Federal service for a year of intensive training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and from there the group was carried on into war service

2. Paper by Henry Kite, "Macon's Contribution to World War II".



Major-General H. D. Russell, dominant military figure of Macon.

as developments occurred in rapid succession to bring the United States into the war against Germany and Japan.

Showing the same courage exhibited by their forebears who watched sons and husbands march away in the frontier garb of the pioneer, and then the gray, the blue, and khaki, Macon relatives watched the officers and men of the National Guard, some 400 strong, depart as the vanguard of an army of some 10,000 others, which this city was eventually to

furnish for military service. Among the officers of the Guard from Macon who were among the very first to answer the call of their country for service were the following: Major General Henry D. Russell, Colonel Ben T. Watkins, Major Albert J. Swann, and Major Carl F. Chapman, headquarters, 30th Division; Captain B. F. Merritt, Jr., and Lt. James Lary, 59th Infantry Brigade; Lieutenant Colonel Usher T. Winslett, Lieutenant Colonel John W. Barnett, Lieutenant Colonel Felton A. Whitaker, Major Michael A. Meath, Major Charles L. Toole, Jr., Captain Pleasant W. Martin, Captain Charles R. Owen, Captain Henry E. Harris, Captain David Macon, Captain James E. Bryant, 1st Lt. Lemuel J. Clark, 1st Lt. Thomas A. Johnston, 1st Lt. B. C. Adams, 1st Lt. Roy W. Hogan, 1st Lt. Ernest C. Dillard, 1st Lt. Felix E. Thorpe, 1st Lt. William A. McKenna, Jr., 1st Lt. David F. Barfield, 1st Lt. John H. Terry, 1st Lt. Russell B. Kinman, 2nd Lt. John M. Hancock, Jr., 2nd Lt. Oswald J. Holland, 2nd Lt. Robert F. Cary, 2nd Lt. William G. Solomon III, 2nd Lt. Hugh J. Edwards, 2nd Lt. Andrew W. H. McKenna, 2nd Lt. Claude P. Spence, 2nd Lt. Eugene Pritchett, 2nd Lt. Robert E. Stuart, and 2nd Lt. David R. Ramey.[3]

Upon the activation of the National Guard into Federal service, the city was left without an organized military force. To meet this need, an organization known as the Home Guard was formed, and upon the outbreak of hostilities, this unit was officially mobilized on December 11th, 1941. Two Macon men, Major M. C. Balkcom, district commander, and Captain Roland Neel, commander of the Macon forces, were active in setting up the local organization. In two days after the treacherous Japanese attack upon Pearl Harbor, almost 100 new applications for membership were received by Captain Neel. This organization on several occasions was ordered to active duty to guard vital power, utility, and transportation services, and rendered invaluable service in performing many necessary local defense projects during the war. In addition to Captain Neel, who later attained the rank of colonel, Macon men who were active in the leadership of the Home Guard included Jimmy Walton, V. Carl Sullivan, R. Douglas Feagin, Sr., Monk Colquitt, Dr. Holmes Mason, Dr. Alvin Siegel, Dr. Tom Harrold, W. G. Taylor, Sr., P. A. McArthur, Charles Bowden, Judge Floyd, Raymond Cropper, Kenmore Burns, Jr., Harry Glenn, Sr., Gordon Malone, Guyton Abney, and others.

Hundreds of Maconites also participated in the civilian defense program which was organized to function in the event of local emergencies or disasters. Boyce Miller was commander of civilian defense. Assisting him was an army of air-raid wardens, auxiliary policemen, ambulance drivers, first-aid experts, fire-fighters, rescue workers, and the like. Several successful "black-outs" of the city were staged, and many schools and drills were attended in connection with the program. The Red Cross, Salvation Army, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., local church organi-

3. Historical and Pictorial Review, 30th Infantry Division, 1941.

zations, civic clubs, and U.S.O. all made important contributions to the war effort.

Members of the local draft board gave unselfishly and unstintingly of their time and effort, and functioned with efficiency and fairness throughout the war years. Approximately 10,000 Maconites eventually became members of the armed forces, and were either directly or indirectly processed by these boards. Serving as chairmen for the longest periods of time on these boards were McKibben Lane, A. Emmett Barnes, Jr., and W. E. Dixon, all prominent local civic and business leaders. Many other patriotic citizens in serving on ration boards, conservation committees, and defense projects of various kinds also contributed greatly to the all-out effort for winning the war.

The city was well represented in the number of Macon men who served as officers during the war. Heading the list were Major Generals Henry D. Russell and Miller G. White. Colonels included John W. Barnett, William Brannan, George Blossom, Selby Buck, Tom Cook, Malcolm Dixon, Willard R. Golsan, B. F. Merritt, Jr., Allan McDonald, Robert Lee Scott, Joe Thomas, Ben T. Watkins, and Usher T. Winslett. Lieutenant Colonels included Sydney Backer, James E. Bryant, James Chaille, Henry Cherry, Lem Clark, Chester J. Comer, John R. Crandall, Buck Corbin, Robert Dillard, Harry W. Elkins, Milford Hatcher, Wesley Hogan, Devereaux Jarratt, Allan Johnson, Hal C. Justus, Jimmy Lucas, Shannon Mays, Johnny Mattox, Robert McCord, Sidney McNair, Gus Meath, Thomas W. Parker, Tom Ross, Emory Smith, Ed Sell, Harold Stevens, A. J. Swann, Charles N. Wasden, Corbit Williamson, and Cliff Williamson.

Majors included the following group: Liston V. Adams, Harold Atkinson, Thomas E. Anthony, James Baird, Robert Baird, Carl Chapman, Charles F. Cooper, Frank L. Denton, Kinloch Dunlap, Douglas Feagin, Jr., Julius Gholson, John Hancock, Fletcher Hanson, Frank Howser, Clifford G. Harms, Hugh Harper, John W. Herin, Prentice Hunnicutt, Alvin M. Koplin, Joseph H. Lessimore, Howard D. Kendall, David Mccon, Pleasant W. Martin, James M. Matthews, Albert W. McKay, Warren Oliver, Willard Owens, Leon D. Porch, Rufus Sams, William G. Solomon III, William Young, and Robert Zeigler.

Naval personnel including the rank of lieutenant commander or above includes the following: Captains Stanley Jones and Robert Hall Smith; Commanders Peyton Anderson, Hugh R. Awtrey, John T. Evans, Robert Gamble, John I. Hall, Eden T. Preston, and Brown Taylor; Lieutenant Commanders Toof Boone, Roger G. Brown, Leo J. Blum, Joseph B. Coke, Robert H. Casson, Wylie H. Davis, Charles H. Davis, Jr., Lamar Edwards, Benning Grice, Fred Johnson, Logan Lewis, James T. Lowe, Carlton Mobley, David L. Mincey, Herman K. Moore, Hamilton Napier, Crockett Odom, Dennis T. Penland, Bert

Struby, Virgil Sheppard, Jimmy Slocum, Myer O. Siegal, Harry T. Torch, Jack E. Virgin, Delmar Warren.[4]

Although Macon contributed many and varied things to the war effort, the supreme sacrifice made by many of her patriotic citizenry was the greatest of all. Included among the war dead are the following, whose names appear on a bronze tablet of the World War II memorial at Coleman Hill Park:

Richard W. Adams, Paul E. Almand, Olan Ard, B. F. Baggarly, Jess W. Barrington, Paul J. Bearden, William W. Bennett, Jr., John M. Birch, Henry Branch, William G. Burt, Jr., Eldon LeGrant Carter, Robert Causey, Emmett E. Clark, Homer V. Cook, Timothy E. Crimmins, Jr., Horace R. Crowder, Harry B. Dawson, Roy G. Dickson, Newton J. Donaldson, Samuel Dyer, Ambrose R. Emery, Warren Evridge, Robert L. Ford, Edward Gaston, Graham Golson, Robert Goodwin, William P. Grey, Roy S. Hahn, W. T. Hamlin, William C. Hardaway, Thomas H. Hart, Etheridge C. Hawkins, Homer D. Herring, Charles R. Hicks, Baynard F. Holloman, Willie B. Horne, Rufus S. Humphries, Jr., George T. Isaf, Charles F. Jones, Harold E. Ketchie, Jack P. Lee, Morton S. Lines, James E. Macken, James Marshman, Felton D. McAfee, Lewis McDaniel, Alfred P. McPeters, Jr., Martin F. Meadows, James M. Minter,

James R. Akridge, Thomas E. Anderson, Colson Ashmore, Ernest S. Barker, Robert N. Bateman, Jr., Robert E. Belcher, Thomas W. Berry, Jerome M. Blumberg, Henry G. Brown, Paul Callaway, John D. Cassidy, Carl F. Chapman, Jr., Donald Clarke, Harold E. Cooper, Harvey W. Criswell, Jr., William H. Cutter, Jr., Robert L. Davis, Charles L. Dixon, Archelaus A. Drake III, Jim P. Edwards, Jack A. Etheridge, Elmo C. Farrow, Edward L. Fuller, William J. Gaultney, Richard C. Goodrich, Jr., Hubert A. Grant, Cecil E. Griffin, Benjamin C. Hall, Olin I. Handley, Oscar M. Harden, Jr., Marion A. Hatcher, Livingston Henry, James T. Hester, Jr., Thomas R. Hicks, James F. Holloway, John A. C. Howard, Royce Hutcheson, James C. Jackson, Jr., Virlyn W. Jones, Arlington Kelley, Madison C. Lee, Colon R. Logan, Robert D. Maddux, John E. Martin, William A. McAfee, Berry McDonald, Albert Meade, John T. Miller, Clyde K. Moore, Jr.,

Simeon Albert, Grady E. Ard, Thomas G. Avant, Albert H. Barlow, Ben F. Bayne, DeWhitt T. Bell, Jr., Luther J. Bestul, William N. Booth, Herbert B. Burns, Leo P. Carr, Orlando L. Cassini, Brown R. Chesney, Jr., Willie L. Collins, William G. Cranford, Judson B. Crow, Lewis S. Dantzler, Harry L. Dent, Woodrow W. Dodge, Needham T. Dumas, William A. Ellis, Randolph L. Evans, Charles A. Floyd, Jr., James P. Gallemore, Jr., Alfred E. Gledhill, Frank H. Goodwin, Audrey T. Green, Rivers P. Grove, James R. Hall, Lee M. Happ, Jr., Marvin R. Harrington, Charles R. Hatton, Ralph D. Herin, Clarence Hewatt, Fred W. Hill, Jack W. Holt, Emmit W. Hume, Walter B. Idom, William F. Jackson, Ray M. Kessler, Jerry W. Latham, William G. Lee, Jr., Marion E. Long, Thomas F. Malone, James W. Mathis, Jr., John T. McCowan, William A. McKenna, Jr., Billy N. Meadows, Albert J. Millirons, Joseph E. Moore, Jr.,

Jack C. Moseley, Haws L. Mullins, Frederick W. Newsome, Lloyd V. Norman, Robert E. Orr, Jr., John C. Perry, Jr., Albert F. Powers, Claude E. Reid, Charles B. Roberts, Jr., George H. Sapp, Walter Scott, Charles V. Shouse, Elmer R. Smith, Hugh D. Spillers, Jr., John H. Starr, Julian L. Stephens, Jack Stroup, John L. Stultz, Richard A. Tharpe, Zollie L. Tindol, Jack Twilley, Eugene Vansant, John H. Warren, Charles R. Wheaton, James L. Wilson, Jr., Kelly A. Wynee,

4. Compilation of Records, Macon newspapers, Macon Military sub-district, and personal interviews.

William F. Moulton, Bruce Mullis, General Jackson Nobles, Jr., William C. Norton, William F. Peavy, Jr., Jesse V. Poole, Heyward L. Ramey, Robert E. Richardson, George J. Roberts, Jr., Walter R. Scarborough, Clyde E. Shaw, Newton B. Shy, George W. Smith, Jr.,

Samuel C. Spillers, Julius D. Stembridge, Johnnie E. Stokes, John H. Strozier, Harry G. Suber, Dewey P. Thompson, Jr., Emory J. Trawick, William L. Valentine, Joseph C. Vigal, Thomas N. Warren, Jr., John W. Wilcox, Jr., Jesse W. Wright, Harold M. Zellner, John L. Mulherin, Rudolph E. NeSmith, Lester L. Norman, Gregory J. O'Hara, Thomas L. Perkins, Harvey E. Powell, William E. Rand, Max W. Richardson, Jr., J. W. Ross, Harold R. Schlueter, John C. Sheehan, Jr., Hugh A. Smalling, Neil S. Spearman, John W. Stahl, John A. Ross, Jr., Harrison V. Story, Robert E. Stubbs, J. P. Sweat, Hugh P. Thompson, William C. Tucker, Edwin C. Vandiver, Hubert E. Warren, Jr., Colin E. Wellons, Jr., George R. Williams, Jr., Robert A. Wright.

Special Interest Fields

Many activities and projects have been promoted and sponsored in Macon during the past twenty years which have contributed to the cultural tastes, hobby interests, and talent expression of its citizens. In dramatics, music, literature, art, sports, gardening, and other fields, Maconites have found an abundant variety of opportunities afforded them for both participation and observation.

Macon Little Theatre

One of the most popular of the local organizations which has afforded Macon citizens keen enjoyment in their appreciation of the stage and theater has been the Macon Little Theater, a voluntary, nonprofit, civic organization. The Little Theater was organized in June, 1934, and began functioning with a membership of 150 persons. The first slate of officers included the following: Fred W. New, president; John Morris, 1st vice-president; Mrs. Piercy Chestney, 2nd vice-president; Art Barry, treasurer; R. H. Casson, secretary; and Joe Popper, business manager. In addition to these officers, charter members of the board of directors included Mrs. Randolph Jaques, Edward Shorter, Joe Maerz, Herbert Smart, Miss Susan Myrick, Paul Conaway, Guyton Abney, J. D. Crump, and Miss Sally Akin. An old laundry building at the foot of Academy Street on Ocmulgee was converted into a suitable home for the theater. This property was owned by the W. D. Lamars' who offered its use to the theater "rent free". Later, the property was deeded to the theater by the Lamars.

Besides Mr. New, there have been three other presidents of the Little Theater. They include Mrs. Piercy Chestney, who served for the greatest number of years of all; Miss Susan Myrick; and W. Elliott Dunwody, who is now serving in that capacity. The membership of the theater has grown over a period of years and now numbers more than 1600. The greatest increase occurred during the presidency of Miss Myrick when the membership jumped from 400 to the present figure. This group has contributed much to the dramatic life of the city since

its formation, and a number of outstanding actors have been discovered through its program. Among Macon people who have played outstanding roles in the various presentations made by the organization are Mrs. Randolph Jaques, Miss Blythe McKay, Miss Myrick, R. H. Casson, Mrs. Elliott Dunwody, George D. W. Burt, Mrs. Rosser Smith, Archie Grinalds, Jr., Alfred K. Story, and others. During the years of World War II, special entertainments were provided for service men located in the city, and a number of soldiers played leading character roles in some of the plays presented.

Macon Community Concerts

The Macon Community Concerts were inaugurated in the Fall of 1934 by a group of public-spirited citizens who wished to give the people of Macon an opportunity to hear fine concert artists. The organization is a non-profit group dedicated to bringing four world-famous concert artists to Macon each year. Charter officers of the organization included J. D. Crump, president; W. Elliott Dunwody, vice-president; Robert Williams, secretary; George Blossom, treasurer; and Mrs. Roy Crockett and Mrs. McKibben Lane, co-chairmen of the membership committee. Joseph Maerz, of the Wesleyan Conservatory faculty, has served as adviser for the artists' committee during the past 15 years.

The concert group has no underwriters, and must sell a certain number of tickets each season before contracts can be signed with the artists. This plan has worked successfully during the past years because of the efforts of the officers of the organization and the cooperation of the people of Macon. Many famous musicians and big-names in the concert field have been brought to Macon for the enjoyment of local music lovers. Present officers of the group include Mrs. J. E. Ferguson, president; Roy Domingos and Elliott Dunwody, vice-presidents; George Blossom, secretary-treasurer; Charles Wood, chairman of the membership committee; and Mrs. Angus Birdsey, chairman of the artists' committee.

Literary Expression Abundant

The city was not lacking during the 1930's and 1940's in literary expression. Willie Snow Etheridge, who was reared in this city and was formerly a member of the staff of The Macon Telegraph, but has since moved to Louisville, Kentucky, added to her two early works, "As I Live and Breathe" and "Mingled Yarn" with "It's Greek to Me", a book written around her experiences and observations while in Greece on a tour of that country with her husband, Mark Etheridge, editor of the Louisville Courier. She is also the author of "I'll Sing One Song" and "This Little Pig Stayed Home".

Charles J. Bayne, another editor of the Macon Telegraph staff, besides being a featured columnist of the Telegraph, has found time to produce two books of verse and to write "The Fall of Utopia" and "The

Water Spirit's Bride". His latest work, "The Coming of the Crow's Feet", has only recently been published and is already meeting with a popular public reception.

One of the most interesting and well received productions during the war was the book written by Colonel Robert L. Scott, famous flying ace of this city. This book, "God Is My Co-Pilot", was published by Charles Scribner Sons in 1943, and was based on the personal experiences of Colonel Scott while flying with General Claire Chennault's famous "Flying Tigers" over China and Burma. The book rapidly became a "best seller" and was the central theme of a movie based on its title which was later produced by Hollywood. The world premier showing of this movie took place in Macon at the Grand Theater during February, 1945, with many prominent celebrities participating in the ceremonies.

Major General Henry D. Russell, prominent military figure of this city, was the author of a book, "The Purge of the 30th Division", which was published in 1948, in which he recounted his experiences with the 30th Infantry Division, which was commanded by him part of the time during World War II.

Two scholarly works were those of Robert Etheridge Moore and James Etheridge Callaway. The former wrote "Hogarth's Literary Relationship", published by the University of Minnesota Press, while the latter produced a book, "The Early Settlement of Georgia", which was post-humously published by the University of Georgia Press following his untimely death in an automobile accident.

Although not as active during this period as in previous years, Harry Stillwell Edwards, well-known Macon author, continued to remain an important literary figure until his death in 1938. "Aenas Africanus", "Sons & Fathers", and his column, "Coming Down My Creek", were among his best known works.

Susan Myrick, feature writer and columnist for the Macon Telegraph, received wide recognition for the quality of her literary work, and came into the national limelight in 1939 when she was selected as technical adviser for the filming of the movie, "Gone With the Wind". Allan Matthews, another Maconite who at one time was connected with the staff of the Macon Telegraph, recently produced a book based on his war experiences in the Pacific. The title of this publication was "Assault".

Two well-known jurists, Bridges Smith and Orville A. Park, wrote numerous pamphlets and articles dealing with the Macon Bar and historical facts and incidents concerning the city. Mr. Park was also author of Park's Annotated Code of Georgia; Park's Banking Laws of Georgia; and the Georgia Bankers' Code. Mr. Smith died during the early part of the 1930's, while Mr. Park died during the 40's. Another Macon lawyer, Harry S. Strozier, was a contributing editor to the staff of the Macon News, and produced many columns and scholarly papers

which were widely read. Mr. Strozier's death occurred during the present year, 1949.

Among other literary figures during this period are included Pat Bray, one of Macon's younger writers, who published a book of poetry; Miss Eunice Thomson, Wesleyan College, who has gained recognition with several poetical works; Mrs. Frank Jones, historical papers and pamphlets; Mrs. Piercy Chestney, historical papers; Joseph Robinson, Mercer University, and Johnny Spencer, Telegraph staff writer, featured columnists; Mrs. Margaret Long Leonard, Macon newspaper woman, who is presently working on a book which concerns the memoirs of Mrs. Walter D. Lamar; Gus Bernd, Jr., historical research; and others.

Music, Stage, Screen, and Radio

Macon music lovers are justly proud of their fellow citizens who have been prominently identified with this field in recent years. Included among the local performers who have attracted considerable attention are Herbert Herrington, Miss Irma Fincher, and Roy Domingos, piano; Mrs. Albert Jelks, Crockett Odom, Miss Fanny Matthews, Mrs. Monroe Ogden, Mrs. Martha Shaffeur Lawson, and Mrs. Hal King, organ; and Harold Beatty, Mrs. Eugene Boswell, Howard Branham, Mrs. Fay Lockhart Cowan, Julian Crossley, Mrs. Roy Crockett, Mrs. Elliott Dunwody, Mrs. J. Edmond Ferguson, Ed Flanders, Mrs. Frances Owens Forschler, Stewart Gordon, John Hamilton, Harry Hamilton, Mrs. Hamilton Holt, John Hinton, Ed R. Hutchings, Mrs. A. J. Johnson, Jr., Boyce Miller, John McMillan, W. W. Orr, Mrs. T. E. Rogers, Joe Struby, Rosser Smith, Mrs. C. A. Thompson, Wallace Williams, and Mrs. Earl Wright, all well known singers. Macon also had the distinction of having the first woman in Georgia to sing over the radio, this honor having gone to Mrs. Cowan in the early days of Station WMAZ.

Included among the Macon people who have made good in the field of entertainment during the past twenty years are Charles Coburn and Melvin Douglass, movie actors; the Pickens Sisters, radio; Bernard Williams, professional dancer; and Dan Holt, famous Negro minstrel performer. There are probably others, but information concerning this field is limited in scope.

City Beautification—Garden Clubs

During the past two decades, Macon has continued to make great strides of progress in its beautification program. In addition to the interest shown by several mayors and various city officials in this project, many individual flower-lovers and Garden Clubs have aided substantially in helping to make the city more attractive, and in making its citizens more "flower conscious". Some 38 Garden Clubs are organized in the Macon area at the present time. Most of these meet regularly and promote hundreds of worth-while projects which make Macon a veritable "city of flowers" at certain seasons of the year. An annual flower

show, an annual camellia show, and various bulb and shrubbery displays are sponsored. Unusual interest has been manifested in recent years in azaleas and camellias. Among the many beautiful showplaces of the city, perhaps the most colorful and extensive are the private gardens of Dr. W. G. Lee and the late James H. Porter, and the camellia and azalea display in Baconsfield Park. Among the various Garden Clubs of the city and their presidents are the following:

Bibb County Flower Club, Mrs. Marion Bates; Federated Garden Clubs of Macon, Miss Adele Conner; Fort Hawkins Garden Club, Mrs. Hansel Balkcom; Cherokee Heights Garden Club, Mrs. Calder Clay; Colaparchee Garden Club, Mrs. M. J. Witman; Bloomfield Garden Club, Mrs. R. G. Barnes; Bedingfield Garden Club, Mrs. Douglas Fincher; Baconsfield Garden Club, Mrs. L. L. James; Grayland Garden Club, Mrs. Nina Willingham; Hill and Dale, Mrs. Dennard Solomon; Houston Heights Garden Club, Mrs. Ira Brightwell; Ingleside-Rivoli Garden Club, Mrs. S. T. Tanner; Men's Garden Club, M. J. Witman; Hillcrest Gardeners, Mrs. L. E. Dodson; Shirley Hills Morning Gardeners, Mrs. Marshall Daugherty; Morning Gardeners, Mrs. B. F. Merritt, Jr.; Lakeside Garden Club, Miss Grace Hendry; Jackson Springs Garden Club, Mrs. Robert McCord; Napier Heights Garden Club, Mrs. E. E. Biggerstaff; North Highlands Garden Club, Mrs. J. H. Rentz; Rutherford Garden Club, Mrs. J. C. Poole; Rutherford Junior Garden Club, Mrs. Elbert Hill; Suwanee Garden Club, Mrs. Everett Sasser; Shirley Hills Garden Club, Mrs. J. Vernon Wallace; Tattnall Square Garden Club, Mrs. C. A. Thompson; Vineville Garden Club, Mrs. Frank Comer, Jr., Vista Ridge Garden Club, Mrs. Kinloch Dunlap; Wildwood Garden Club, Mrs. Clarke Davis; Curry-Clay Garden Club, Mrs. A. B. Amerson; Sharon-Rose Garden Club, Mrs. H. G. Tinker; Porterfield Garden Club, Mrs. W. B. Sexton; Town and Country Garden Club, Miss Cordelia Dessau; and South Highland Garden Club, Mrs. W. A. Bowen.[5]

Sports Activities

Macon has enjoyed the reputation of being a great sports center since the earliest days of its 125 years history. During the past twenty years, it has lived up to this tradition. Besides all kinds of local athletic contests and sports activities such as baseball, football, softball, basketball, tennis, golf, bowling, skeet-shooting, soccer, horse-racing, auto-racing, boat-racing, archery, hunting, and fishing, the city has been well represented in competition with other localities.

Perhaps the most important and most celebrated sports event which held the interest of the entire city during this period was the world championship bout participated in by W. L. "Young" Stribling, popular and beloved Macon athlete. This event was staged in Cleveland, Ohio, July 2nd, 1931, and brought Young Stribling against Max

5. Macon Chamber of Commerce records.



Young Stribling, Macon boxer, one of America's leading heavyweights during the 30's.

Schmeling, of Germany. Hundreds of Macon fight fans traveled to Cleveland to support their champion, while thousands of others listened intently to the fight results over the local radios and public address systems. Although Stribling lost the fight by a technical knockout in the 14th round, he put up a courageous battle, and continued to remain a popular favorite with Macon sports enthusiasts. It was his first defeat in 290 fights.

Many outstanding competitors have been developed from this city in recent years in the realm of high school, college, and professional athletics. However, perhaps the most famous and highly publicized of all was Vernon "Catfish" Smith, a local football star, who won "All-American" honors at the University of Georgia in 1931. In addition to football, Smith was an all-round star in every major athletic sport and was regarded by many as one of the "all-time" greats in southern athletics.

During the past twenty years, Lanier High School of this city, under the guidance of Coach Selby Buck, has dominated high school athletic events in the state. Over this period of time, Lanier has won four football titles, ten basketball championships, four track titles, four golf championships, and first honors on several occasions in basketball and tennis. In 1947, the Poets won every major high school athletic title in Georgia. Mercer University also has contributed to Macon's success in the athletic field, and in the early part of the 1930's, the Mercer Bears were among the top college teams of the South. Perhaps the most colorful football team of Mercer was produced by Coach Lake Russell in 1933. That year the Mercer team led both the Army and Navy at the half before giving way to superior reserve strength, and played Georgia to a close 13-12 score.

In professional baseball, the Macon Peaches have fielded several strong clubs, and won the Sally League pennants in 1941 and 1949. The Macon team in 1949 was the first one in the history of the league to win both the regular season pennant and also the Shaughnessy play-off. Many major league players received their early baseball experience with the Macon club. Among some of these were Eddie Stanky, Buck Newsome, Andy Pafko, Paul Richards, Al Lopez, and others.

Golf has developed as a popular sport during recent years and several hundred Maconites play regularly at the Idle Hour Country Club and the Bowden Municipal courses. Although there are many fine golfers in the city, by far the most outstanding and prominent of the city's competitors is Arnold Blum, who has won both the state and southeastern championships within recent years. Blum started breaking golf course records at the age of 16 while still a member of the local high school team, and has won just about every important golf event in this section.

A renewed interest in racing events has taken place in the city during the past decade, mostly through the efforts and the promotion of the Macon Racing Association, headed by Roy Gandy. At the present time, local racing fans may select from five kinds of racing events. These include stock car racing, midget races, speedway racing, harness racing, and motor-boat races. Some of the outstanding professional racers in the United States have been brought to Macon by the local race promoters. Included among these are such speed-kings and national champions as Red Bryant, Fonty Flock, Ted Horn, Joie Chitwood, and Rex Mays. Many of the outstanding harness horses of the country, includ-

ing the famous Roosevelt Raceway entries, train in Macon during the winter, and are quartered at the modern stables which have been erected for this purpose at Central City Park by city authorities.

Club Activities

Playing a leading role in all of the activities of the city and helping to promote its important projects have been the numerous civic, service, professional, religious, and patriotic clubs of Macon. Although the origins of some of these clubs date back for more than a century, a majority of them have been organized within recent years. Included among the civic clubs and their presidents at the present time are following: Civitan, Ed Burke; Exchange, J. C. Sheehan; Ingleside Kiwanis, C. R. Rader; Inter-civic, Mason Zuber; Kiwanis, P. A. McArthur; Lions, Kenneth Carswell; Optimists, Russell McLean; and Rotary, Maxwell Marsh.

Some of the women's clubs and their presidents include: Business and Professional Woman's Club, Miss Thelma Rickenbacker; Junior League of Macon, Mrs. Carling Schatzman, Jr.; Civic Woman's Club of Macon; Mrs. D. T. Segler; Macon Credit Woman's Club, Mrs. Jessie Lloren; Pilot Club, Mrs. Martha T. Barfield; Woman's Club, Mrs. B. B. Odom; "Y" Civic Club, Miss Masie Spiller; Quota Club, Mrs. Helen Wallace; Soroptomist, Mrs. Mary Wessell; United Daughters of the Confederacy, Mrs. Wyatt B. Childs; Colonial Dames, Mrs. Thomas Harold, Jr.; Daughters of American Colonists, Mrs. Charles Akerman; Daughters of American Revolution, Nathaniel Macon Chapter, Miss Mary Lou Barton; Mary Hammond Washington Chapter, Miss Julia Robson; Gold Star Wives, Mrs. Dot Zellner; Gold Star Mothers, Mrs. Mary Goodwin; League of Women Voters, Mrs. Richard Burts, Jr.; Parents and Teachers' Association, Mrs. J. L. Urquhart; Women's Christian Temperance Union, Mrs. J. R. Miller.

Some of the professional and cultural groups include: Executive Club, J. Douglas Carlisle; Macon Art Association, J. W. Bray, Jr.; Macon Bar Association, T. Coleman Bloodworth; Bibb Education Association, Miss Frances Oliver; Macon Community Chest, Henry Burns; Macon Community Concert, Mrs. J. E. Ferguson; Macon Little Theater, W. Elliott Dunwody; Macon Morning Music Club, Mrs. Albert Jelks; Macon Musicians Club, Miss Henrietta Collins; History Club, Mrs. Andrew McClure; Historical Society, General Walter A. Harris; Ministerial Association, Rev. Tracy Lamar.[6]

Many other organizations representing lodges, veterans organizations, labor unions, business groups, welfare agencies, hobby clubs, private clubs, secret societies, and the like also play active and vital roles in the life of the community.

6. Macon Chamber of Commerce records.

Death Claims Many Citizens

During the past twenty years, the community has been saddened by the passing of many of its valuable citizens. Included among these are the following: T. E. Artope, Roy Aven, Charles Akerman, Bishop W. N. Ainsworth, P. T. Anderson, Sr., W. T. Anderson, Dr. O. C. Anderson, Mrs. W. D. Anderson, Miss Florence Bernd, Aaron B. Bernd, Alex Bloch, Dr. William B. Burke, R. F. Burden, Rev. S. J. Baker, A. A. Benedetto, Rev. J. W. Ballard, Elder A. J. Banks, Walter Bragg, R. A. Bollinger, Harry D. Chapman, Jack Cutler, Claude Cason, Joseph W. Cannon, Joseph W. Clisby, R. J. Coates, Rev. J. F. Cargile, Ruffin B. Chestney, G. Clisby Clark, Taylor T. Carstarphen, R. Coke Connally, Miss Mollie Day, Frank Donnelly, J. K. Daly, Andrew F. Devlin, J. Tom Davis, Leon S. Dure, Kinloch Dunlap, Sr., Judge Bascom S. Deaver,

Roland Ellis, Judge J. F. Ellis, Dr. Archibald England, Eli Elkan, Harry S. Edwards, Dr. James A. Fountain, Dr. John D. Freeman, Rev. J. S. Grahl, Dr. B. W. Greene, Dr. B. D. Gostin, Ferd A. Guttenberger, Dr. Ovella Gleason, Miss Lena Guttenberger, Rev. William A. Huckabee, Dr. J. H. Heard, Dr. Charles A. Hilbun, Dr. John G. Harrison, Rev. J. A. Harmon, Walter F. Houser, Thomas H. Halliburton, Jesse B. Hart, Dr. John A. Hembree, T. W. Hooks, Albert S. Hatcher, Horace Henry, Judges Charles H. Hall, J. Ellsworth Hall, Dr. Charles C. Harrold, Dr. W. B. Holmes, James R. Hicks, George B. Jewett, George S. Jones, Judge Holmes Johnson, Judge Malcolm D. Jones, Rev. H. C. Jones, Baxter Jones, Dr. J. R. Jordan, W. O. Kinney, Henry A. Kennington, Dr. J. W. Lovelace, A. J. Long, Dr. J. C. Midgett, W. G. Middlebrooks, Edgar H. Middlebrooks,

B. F. Merritt, Sr., Frederick R. Martin, Dr. W. R. Mackey, Dr. George T. Miller, Harry L. McEwen, W. J. McElroy, R. L. McKenney, Dr. L. C. McAfee, C. D. McCowan, Judge William A. McClellan; J. M. McFerrin, Tom McCommon, Clarence McCommon, Prof. W. J. Noyes, E. Tris Napier, M. E. Outz, B. P. O'Neal, Sr., George F. Oliphant, S. J. T. Price, James H. Porter, Orville A. Park, Dr. C. H. Perdue, Dr. C. L. Pennington, Miss Carolyn Patterson, Prof. W. B. Redding, Dr. Bert P. Richardson, Dr. George E. Rosser, George P. Rankin, Sr., Vivian H. Roberts, Dr. E. R. Respess, Ralph Small, Sr., John S. Schofield, Carling Schatzman, Louis E. Schwartz, Harry S. Strozier,

Robert J. Taylor, Dr. Charles L. Toole, G. Glen Toole, Judges James M. Talley, Theo J. Volk, Hiram Van Zandt, Osgood P. Willingham, Luther Williams, Francis Williams, W. T. Williford, Dr. O. O. Watson, J. S. Waldorf, J. B. Warfield, Ben B. Willingham, Dr. O. H. Weaver, Harry Wright, James F. Yates, J. T. Yearty.[7]

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7. Interviews with personnel at Hart's Mortuary and Memorial Chapel, and Macon newspaper files.

Industrial Macon 1930 - 1950

The history of industrial Macon dates back to 1819 when boats first began to navigate the Ocmulgee River and a boat-building factory became the city's first industry. As time passed and the city grew, machine shops and small foundries were established, expanding with the railroads which spun an increasingly large web of transportation and communications around this growing market and manufacturing center. In 1876, the Bibb Manufacturing Company created textile manufacturing here. Other plants then using locally marketed raw materials included leather and harness manufacturing, lumbering, flour milling, and the making of brick and pottery.

Through the following years the textile, woodworking and ceramic industries led a procession of new industries, most smaller plants employing fewer than 100 workers. Most employment was in semi-skilled or unskilled jobs.

The "depression years" affected Macon severely. During the 1930's industrial production slumped, unemployment hit unprecedented heights, breadlines formed, "made-work" projects came and went with men given jobs by digging ditches and others hired to fill them. Many were employed to plant the orderly rows of pine trees which are now such a familiar part of our landscape. Through government efforts and the willpower of Macon residents, the city headed back toward prosperity.

Then, in 1940, the businessmen of Macon voluntarily voted a 40% increase to their privilege licenses, with the understanding that these funds would be used to secure military facilities in the Macon area. The venture was highly successful. Camp Wheeler was reactivated, Cochran Field was established as a large training school, the Naval Ordnance Plant became a permanent industry, and Warner Robins sprang from nearby corn fields to become one of the Air Force's largest permanent supply and repair depots.

With the coming of these military facilities, Macon's streets took on a distinct khaki color, vast new wealth flowed into Macon trade channels, reaching new, younger, and more aggressive hands. New businesses were established, greater civic interest was developed, with citizens subscribing $100,000 capital for the Chamber of Commerce use in promoting more industry.

The stage was set for a post-war avalanche of industrial development by the city and county governments, which eliminated deficits and built cash surpluses, additional housing for war workers was further supplemented to provide homes for the rapidly growing population. The 10,000 men and women entering World War II from Macon were far outnumbered by immigrating war workers and others who moved in to the city.

Following World War II, when construction restrictions were partly

lifted, Macon surged into a new era of industrial development which brought an average of $1,000,000 monthly in new industrial investments during the three years following V-E Day. Industrial employment, payrolls and purchases of raw materials in the trade area rose far above any previous level. New customers and new buying power created a greater local market for smaller industries catering to such restricted areas. All of this produced openings for more retail and service establishments. Farm incomes skyrocketed, influenced by these new local markets for many of their products, and living standards were thus improved in rural—as well as in the urban areas.

Industrial employment, which was only about 6,000 in 1940, has risen to over 20,000 in Bibb County, representing about one of every four people living in Macon. Industrial payrolls have increased from 1940's $3,810,593 to more than $32,000,000 annually.[8]

This era of industrial expansion and development has been attributable to a great extent to the efforts of the Macon Chamber of Commerce and the far-sighted vision and work of a group of Macon's business leaders. Back in August, 1940, Macon leaders voiced hearty approval of the Macon War Defense Council's plans to bring new industries and installations to this city. Mayor Bowden pointed out that Macon was as well qualified for this as any other city in the South, and cited the unusual advantages of the city's location, facilities, and climate. Karl Slocum, Troy Raines, and a host of others were outspoken in their approval.

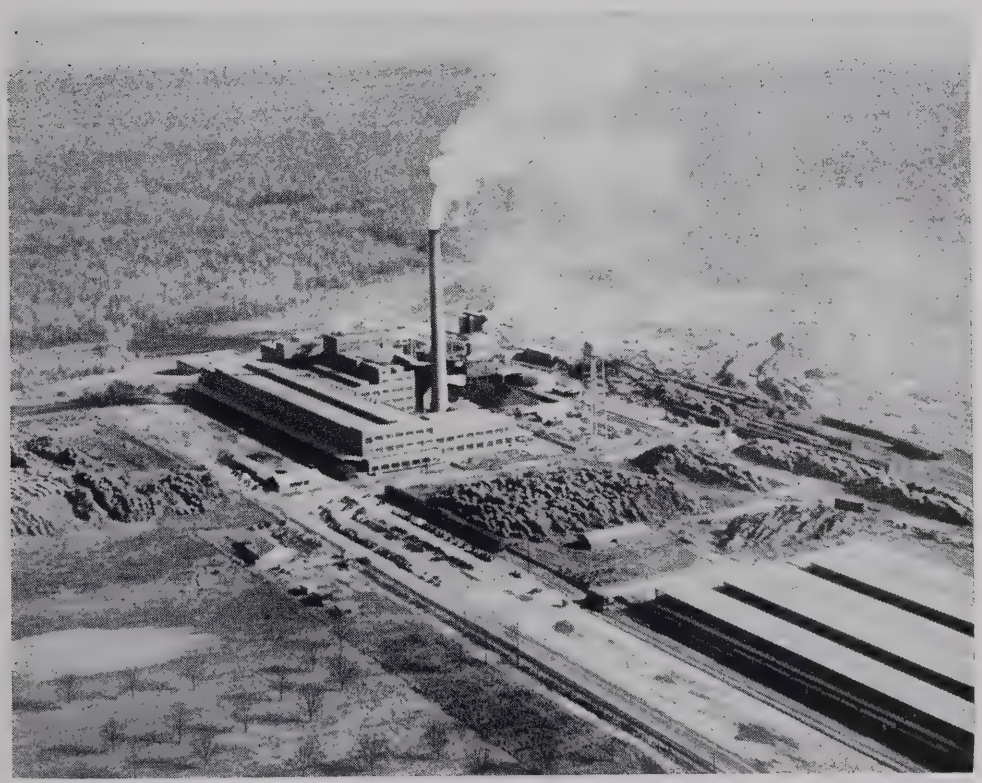
With the organization of the Macon Area Development Commission in 1944, another far-reaching step was taken by local leaders. The purpose of this organization was to promote the business development, expansion, and prosperity of Macon and the Macon trade area. Members pledged themselves to finance and work actively to promote the trade, manufacturing, industrial, and agricultural interests of the city and vicinity. Among the business, civic, and political leaders who have played prominent roles of leadership in this expansion program are included Carmage Walls, Charles L. Bowden, Dr. W. G. Lee, C. O. McAfee, L. M. Solomon, Calder B. Clay, Rad Turner, William P. Simmons, Reginald Trice, Leo Huckabee, William A. Fickling and others. Lee S. Trimble and Walter T. Cates, executive directors of the Chamber of Commerce, both made invaluable contributions toward this effort.

Again, in April, 1945, another important meeting was called. This time the chairmen of the various committees of the Chamber of Commerce took the initiative. Plans for a community march of progress which might benefit the entire section were discussed and carefully considered. More and better airline service, additional industries, research and demonstration to improve farming procedure, and better highways and roads were among the goals outlined at this meeting.

8. Paper by Staley Cates, "Industrial Development of Macon."

In September, 1945, the first visible evidence of the success of this program was apparent with the announcement that the Mead Corporation of Dayton, Ohio, planned to establish a $10,000,000 container board plant in this area. The board of directors of the Macon Chamber of Commerce and the Macon Area Development Commission voted a resolution of welcome to this concern after a fact-finding committee had reported on its findings following a tour of paper mills in Savannah and Brunswick. There was considerable controversy by the public, in general, concerning the advantages and disadvantages of such an industry. Most of the objection was due to the sharp and pungent odors characteristic with the operation of paper mills.

Following the establishment of the Macon Kraft Company, as the new industry was called, a long list of other concerns, the total value of which amounted to many millions of dollars, were attracted to the Macon area. The Armstrong Cork Company, with an initial investment of $4,000,000; Durkee Famous Foods Division, The Glidden Company, valued at $2,500,000; Inland Container Corporation, with an investment of approximately $4,000,000; Delta Tank Manufacturing Company; Berry-McAfee Box Company; Macon Hosiery Company; Bowers



Macon Kraft Company plant, one of Macon's largest new industries
Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones

Battery and Spark Plug Company; Georgia Oxygen Company; Lee Baking Company; Bateman Frozen Foods Company; General Chemical Company; Beneeda Bedspread Company; Bibb Shirt Company; Macon Shirt Company; the new Sears Roebuck Company, several large supermarkets of chain stores; and innumerable smaller industrial concerns have been brought to this city within recent years. As a result of this accelerated program of industrial expansion, Macon today boasts of 172 different manufacturing concerns representing a total of 70 classifications of production.[9]

In other realms of business and professional activity, the city has shown an unprecedented growth in the past two decades. The Macon of today has almost 400 various kinds of businesses and services. These range all the way from diaper service and corsetieres to casket-makers and exterminators. Among some of the more common and numerous business classifications are included 28 accountants, 13 air-conditioning companies, 52 apartment buildings, 12 architects, 25 automobile dealers, 29 automobile accessories and parts shops, 57 automobile repair shops, 17 bakers, 63 barber shops, 75 beauty shops, 49 beer handlers, 7 carbonated beverage bottlers, 14 billiard parlors, 4 radio broadcasting stations, 16 building material stores, 7 bus and coach lines, 7 cabinet makers, 10 candy manufacturers, 9 cemeteries, 6 chemical companies, 7 chiropractors, 172 churches, 6 coal dealers, 18 construction companies, 9 coin operating machine dealers, 30 cleaners, 11 dairies, 8 day nurseries, 37 dentists, 4 dental labs, 9 department stores, 10 five and ten cent stores, 9 electrical equipment and supply houses, 7 employment agencies, 7 civil engineers, 7 funeral directors, 19 furniture dealers, 13 glass dealers, 348 retail groceries and meat markets, 8 wholesale grocers, 10 public halls, 60 clothing stores, 54 contractors, 4 cotton goods manufacturers, 6 credit reporting agencies, 33 dress-makers, 48 druggists, 10 fish dealers, 16 florists, 23 fruit dealers, 3 gas companies, 8 gas heater distributors, 183 gasoline and oil filling stations, 15 hardware dealers, 5 hat cleaners, 5 local and long distance hauling,

9 heating services, 41 home furnishers, 5 orphan homes and asylums, 6 hospitals, 19 jewelers, 5 junk dealers, 9 kindergartens, 44 labor organizations, 5 public libraries, 79 wholesale and retail liquor dealers, 5 livestock dealers, 53 personal loan companies, 16 mortgage loan companies, 24 lumber dealers, 5 machine shops, 4 mattress manufacturers, 8 motion picture theaters, 3 neon sign companies, 2 public newspapers, 7 office supply houses, 7 opticians, 9 optometrists, 4 osteopaths, 30 paint dealers, 10 playgrounds and parks, 3 pawnbrokers, 3 pharmaceuticals, 22 photographers, 109 physicians and surgeons, 26 plumbers, 7 poultry dealers, 15 printing companies, 29 radio repair shops, 3 railroads, 34 real estate companies, 50 insurance agents, 94 insurance companies, 16 laundries, 116 lawyers, 3 airlines, 13 refrigerator sales and service companies.

170 restaurants, 14 roofers, 52 public schools, 3 business schools, 3

9. Information compiled by Mrs. Alice Jones, statistician, Macon Chamber of Commerce.



Aerial View of Metropolitan Macon
Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones

religious schools, 2 parochial schools, 1 blind academy, and 1 aviation school, 5 sheet metal shops, 20 shoe dealers, 28 shoe repair shops, 6 sign companies, 5 storage warehouses, 14 tailors, 8 taxicab companies, 21 tire dealers, 9 tourist camps, 4 trust companies, 11 upholsterers, 10 vending machine dealers, 12 venetian blind companies, 4 veterinaries, 6 welders and brazers, 7 wine shops, 23 wood dealers, and hundreds of other smaller and less known businesses.[10]

Macon now has more than 100,000 people in its 19 square miles of metropolitan area. Nearly a fourth of these people work in the city's 172 manufacturing plants with other thousands supplying every type of merchandise and service in stores serving the half-million customers who live in Macon's trade area. There is a church for every 580 people living in the community. Over 5,000,000 azaleas and camellias are among the flowers and shrubs which blossom throughout the year along wide downtown streets, in 500 acres of public parks, and on nearly every lawn. The public schools of Macon and Bibb County, with more than 20,000 students, are rated among the finest in the nation. New homes, more factories, stores, and warehouses are now adding to Macon's

10. Macon City Directory and phone directory, 1949.

strength and importance, and create a diversified balance between new industry and rich agricultural surroundings.[11]

A progressive local government provides public services with reasonable taxation. Citizens of Macon are constantly striving to improve the quality of their community. The Macon of today has a future to be defined only by self-imposed limits. With every modern civic asset, more than ordinary educational facilities, an agricultural and trade area of wide extent and potential expansion, a collection of industries both varied and extensive, and an archaeological site of first importance at its very gates, Macon already has what most cities are still seeking. Truly, a gaze into Macon's industrial crystal ball shows a bright and promising future.

Important News Events

A chronological summary of some of the most prominent news events during the period, 1930-1949, includes the following:

1930

Macon was feeling the pinch of a rapidly growing depression during this year. The report of the city auditor listed current assets at $217,894 and liabilities at $252,169, thus leaving a deficit of $34,274. The county commissioners adopted a budget of $1,045,621 and reduced county taxes from 18.5 to 18 mills. Macon spot cotton hit a new low in August of 10½ cents, the lowest figure in a decade.

On January 13th, the American Federation of Labor held an organizational meeting in Macon and George L. Googe, labor official, stated that the purpose of his organization was to organize all Bibb wage earners, especially those of the textile mills. On February 15th, a wholesale arrest of 72 men was made in Macon for violating the liquor laws, and U. S. Commissioner W. B. Martin termed it the "biggest prohibition round-up" in the history of the city. Leland Harvey, notorious Georgia felon, was recaptured in February after another escape and returned to the state penitentiary at Reidsville to continue serving on his 105 year sentence.

In April, the Macon Bar Association elected the following officers: Pope F. Brock, president; Harry S. Strozier, vice-president; Cubbedge Snow, secretary; and W. C. Turpin, treasurer. Another Macon attorney, Charles A. Glawson, was a suicide victim in May. A $50,000 law building was dedicated at Mercer University in June. In August, the contract was let for the construction of Al Sihah Shrine Temple at a cost of approximately $90,000. In September, the Macon National Bank and the Continental Trust Company merged to form the present First National Bank. C. E. Allen was named president.

R. L. McKenney, editor and publisher of The Macon News, sold all interest in that paper during June to W. T. Anderson, editor and pub-

11. Macon Chamber of Commerce pamphlet.

lisher of The Macon Telegraph. On July 29th, "Young" Stribling, local boxer, knocked out the British heavyweight champion, Phil Scott, in the second round of a ten round bout. A preliminary census report listed Macon's population at 53,866, an increase of 871 for the previous ten-year period.

Several prominent Macon leaders died during this year. Included among these were Thomas H. Halliburton, who was killed in an automobile accident during January. He was former Mayor Pro-tem, active in the business, civic, and religious life of the community, and voted the most popular man in Macon in 1926; Joseph H. Napier, wholesale grocer and farmer and member of one of the old, prominent families in Macon; Mallory H. Taylor, business leader and proprietor of the old wooden drugstore, historic Macon landmark, at Cherry and Second; Judge Bridges Smith, jurist, author, and political leader; and Francis E. Williams, civic leader and official of the Luther Williams Bank & Trust Company.[12]

1931

Macon continued to feel the effects of the nation-wide depression, but some improvement in the economic condition of the city was noted by Mayor G. Glen Toole who issued an inspirational message on January 1st in which he pointed out that many employees had returned to work with the Central of Georgia Railroad and Happ Brothers, and that the Macon Gas Company and Hotel Dempsey were planning expansion programs. "Let's quit talking about the stock market and Wall Street and talk more about Cherry Street and the local market," he stated. "Macon, for more than 100 years, has enjoyed all of the necessities and luxuries which the world affords. Our city withstood the panic of 1837 with a smile as well as those that followed in 1881, 1907, 1914, 1921, and 1929, and each time came through with flags flying."

Macon became a stop in the regular air passenger service between New York and Miami when a bi-motored plane stopped at Miller Field during January. The plane was welcomed by Mayor Toole and members of city council and Cubbedge Snow, chairman of the aviation committee, was a passenger on the first official departure from Macon. During February, a new public school was opened when the A. L. Miller High School for Girls started operation. H. S. Lasseter, for many years a teacher at the old school, became the first principal.

Several Macon businesses were expanded or began increased production. The Dr. Pepper Bottling Company opened its bottling business in March and began serving merchants within a 60-mile radius of the city. Several new departments were added to the Sears-Roebuck store. A new two-story flour mill was opened by the Birdsey Flour Company at the foot of Poplar. Macon's theaters were enlarged through

12. News summary from Macon Telegraph and News by Charles Hartness.

a sale in October which transferred the ownership of the Ritz, Capitol, and Rialto Theaters from the Public-Paramount Corporation to Arthur Lucas, of Atlanta. A new market house was opened at 553 Poplar Street in August with 25 built-in retail booths. More than 6,000 people attended the opening.

Honors were bestowed on a number of Macon men during 1931. General Blanton Winship, of this city, was named Judge Advocate General of the Army. Herbert Smart, prominent merchant, was named vice-president of the Exchange Clubs of Georgia. Ben T. Watkins, Macon police chief, was presented the Atlanta Constitution award for the most outstanding police work during the year. Orville A. Park, Macon lawyer received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Emory University. W. D. Anderson, textile manufacturer, was named chairman of the University System of Georgia.

On July 2nd, W. L. "Young" Stribling, of this city fought Max Schmeling for the heavyweight title of the world. Although he lost the fight by a technical knockout in the 14th round, Stribling fought gamely and gained many followers even in defeat. Another Macon boy, Vernon "Catfish" Smith, playing end with the University of Georgia football team, was named to the "All-American" football team. The announcement of his selection was made in December, and came as a climax to the most brilliant athletic record ever made by a college man from Macon.

Mrs. Mary Day Lanier, the fragile, gray-eyed Macon girl, who stole the heart of Sidney Lanier, Macon's beloved poet, died in Greenwich, Connecticut, December 29th, at the age of 87. Private funeral services were held in Greenwich, following which the body was cremated and buried beside the body of the poet in Baltimore, Maryland.

Also during the year a fire occurred which destroyed the left wing of the Lanier Hotel. Damage amounted to more than $100,000. Mark L. Etheridge, outstanding civic leader and managing editor of The Macon Telegraph, resigned to return to the staff of The New York Sun. Life insurance payments in Macon passed the $1,000,000 mark, which ranked Macon among the first hundred cities in the nation to attain that record. Leland Harvey made his seventh escape from the State Farm by snatching a pistol from a guard. Several outstanding citizens died during the year. Among these were Judge Henry A. Mathews, Bibb Superior Court; Thomas J. Cochran, brilliant jurist; William Andrew Taylor, head of the Taylor Iron Works; and others.[13]

1932

A tablet in memory of Senator A. O. Bacon, prominent congressman from this city, was unveiled at impressive ceremonies in the Baconsfield club-house on January 1st. The tablet was presented by the Macon Woman's Club in honor of Senator Bacon, by whose will Baconsfield

13. News summary from Macon Telegraph and News by John Adams.

Park and the Baconsfield home were left for the children and women's clubs of this city.

Roland Ellis, Sr., former state senator and representative, civic leader, and for many years legal adviser for Macon's utilities companies, was found dead on January 7th. During February, an unusual celebration, honoring the birthday of George Washington, was staged by local Shriners with the unveiling of a facsimile of the Declaration of Independence cast in bronze on a boulder in Washington Park.

A number of celebrated artists appeared in Macon during the year. On January 14th, Ruth Benton, famous young American violinist, appeared at Wesleyan Conservatory. On February 24th, Ignace Jan Padarewski, world famous pianist and composer, played for more than two hours before one of the city's largest audiences. Amelita Gali-Curci, famed artist, presented a program at the city auditorium on December 8th before an overflowing audience of admirers.

One of the most disastrous fires in the history of the city occurred on June 24th when flames which broke out in an office on the first floor spread rapidly through the first four floors and destroyed practically the entire structure of the Citizens & Southern National Bank Building in the heart of Macon's business district on the southeast corner of Cherry and Third. Firemen valiantly fought the blaze all night, the reflection of which could be seen for miles away. Thousands of people were attracted to the scene. Damage was estimated at approximately three-fourths of a million dollars. The extent of the damage was so great that the building had to be completely torn down. The present Citizens & Southern building was erected following the fire.

Captain W. W. Gaines, Confederate veteran of many land and sea battles, and the founder of Macon's telephone system, died during June, ending a career which covered nearly a century of American history, and impressed itself on Macon's early development for 40 years. He was the oldest graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy. Several other prominent citizens passed on during the year. Among these were Arthur B. Boardman, father of Macon's water system, and organizer of the Macon Savings Bank in 1874; Charles M. Adams, insurance executive and civic leader; and Jesse Harris, Macon attorney.

A total eclipse of the sun interested Maconites on September 1st. It was the last eclipse which might be seen in totality until 1963. Wesleyan College was hostess to one of her distinguished alumna during the same month. Madame H. H. Kung, wife of the minister of commerce and industry of the Nationalist Government in China. In politics, a state-wide Democratic rally was held during October with Senator Alben W. Barkley, of Kentucky, as principal speaker. And, in the presidential election held on November 8th, Maconites, by a majority of more than ten to one chose the "new deal" of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Roosevelt received 4,372 votes in Bibb County, while Hoover, the Republican candidate, garnered, only 405.[14]

14. News summary from Macon Telegraph and News by Hal Anderson.

1933

Business got off to a good start during 1933 when the general contract for the construction of the new Citizens & Southern Bank building was let to the Southern Ferro Concrete Company of Atlanta on January 17. During the same month, Sergei Rachmaninoff, whose fame stands among the immortal things of music, visited Macon. On February 3rd, President Roosevelt and a number of Democratic Party leaders stopped briefly in Macon en route from Warm Springs to Jacksonville.

Substitution of motor buses for electric trolley cars on several lines was approved by city council in May. A colorful pageant of Georgia was also presented on May 29th at Centennial Stadium where 8,000 persons marveled as the events covering two glorious centuries of the state's history unfolded before them.

A number of prominent citizens died during the year. Included among these were Peter W. Martin, the Scotchman, who rehabilitated the kaolin industry in this section; Osgood P. Willingham, prominent in Macon's business life and a member of one of the state's outstanding Baptist families; Chester W. Jones, contractor, who helped to erect many of the city's largest structures; and Broadus E. Willingham, II, who died when a college boys' week-end trip ended in tragedy.

Not only the people of Macon and Georgia but those of the United States and the entire world were greatly saddened by the untimely death of W. L. "Young" Stribling on October 3rd following injuries received in a motorcycle accident. "Strib", as he was nick-named by many admirers, was one of the most colorful figures in the ring, and was known all over the world for the excellence of his boxing, for his wholesome sportsmanship, and for his clean character. A public funeral in the city auditorium was arranged in his honor, and the host of friends and admirers who paid their last respects was so large that they overflowed the auditorium and crowded out onto the sidewalks and streets. Many famous celebrities from all parts of the world came to Macon to attend the funeral.

1934

Some of the "firsts" for the new year as recorded in the Telegraph included the first white child born in 1934, Henry Derry Harrison; the first arrest in 1934, Joshua "Dock" Maxwell; and the first robbery of 1934 involving Taylor T. Carstarphen, who was held up and robbed of $500 at his warehouse on Poplar Street. During the early part of the year, an ordinance was passed by city council licensing the sale of beer. The ordinance was hotly debated and a series of militant dry speakers were heard by council which passed it by a close 6-4 vote. Mayor Smart issued a statement in support of the action of council in which he said, "This administration will be more diligent than ever in enforcing prohibition laws regarding intoxicating liquors. This ordinance does not in any way license the sale of liquor."

Robert Bingham, ambassador to Great Britain, was a visitor in the city during the winter, Dr. C. L. Ridley was chosen by the Board of Hospital Commissioners to succeed Howard V. Williams as superintendent of the Macon Hospital. A Macon man, General Blanton Winship, was appointed by President Roosevelt as Governor of Puerto Rico. The Macon Little Theater was organized with 47 charter members and announced plans to begin castings for the first stage production during the spring. Macon business leaders were intensely interested in the action taken by Congress at President Roosevelt's suggestion to devalue the dollar. The dollar devaluation bill set the value of this monetary unit at 59.06 of its former gold equivalent. The purpose of the move was to increase consumer purchasing power.

Dr. Arthur R. Kelly, Smithsonian archaeologist, in an address at the Washington Memorial Library described the Indian Mounds as Macon's greatest asset. Dr. C. C. Harrold, president of the Society for Georgia Archaeology, and General Walter Harris, president of the local Historical Society, also emphasized the value of these remains.

Josef Hoffmann, noted pianist, appeared in a concert at the Macon Auditorium during February. Marshall Daugherty, young Macon sculptor, produced a clay bust of Harry Stillwell Edwards, the author, during the summer which was displayed at the J. W. Burke Company and attracted considerable attention.

Several prominent citizens passed away during the year. Included among these were Miss Mary Elizabeth Mason, known as "Miss Mollie" to the hundreds of art students all over the country who studied at her studio on Forsyth Street. She died on February 13 and was 81 years old; Dr. C. E. Hilbun, prominent Macon optometrist; Dr. John G. Harrison, Dean of the School of Christianity at Mercer; Ed D. Huthnance, pioneer Macon dry goods dealer and proponent of city parks; Robert J. Taylor, widely known Baptist layman; Judge A. L. Miller, prominent attorney and business leader and for many years a member of the legislature; W. P. McNair, an official with the Bankers Life Insurance; R. H. "Pete" Williams, one of the proprietors of the Williams Jewelry Company; and Frank C. Donnelly, bank official and widely known singer.

Perhaps the largest fire of the year was the one which damaged the Forsyth Terrace, one of Macon's oldest apartment houses. Eight families were left homeless and damage was in excess of $10,000. Considerable damage was also caused during the summer when five parked automobiles were struck by a fire department truck in front of the courthouse as a front wheel came off. Macon was ice-bound on February 12; schools were closed; and traffic came to a veritable standstill. Many accidents were reported due to the covering of ice.

A serious textile strike occurred in September and for the first time in many years violence flared in Macon. Eleven rioters were arrested outside the gates of Bibb Mill No. 2 during one incident, and several

citizens were injured in altercations. Nine textile workers were killed in South Carolina and bloodshed occurred in this industry all over the country. Several sharp exchanges of words occurred between W. D. Anderson, president of the Bibb Manufacturing Company, and George L. Googe, southern representative of the A. F. of L.

Officials of the Macon Grand Opera Association brought the San Carlo Opera Company to this city after an absence of several years. Three performances were arranged at the Macon Auditorium. R. L. McKenney headed the grand opera group while directors included George L. Blossom, John L. Morris, Robert H. Williams, Wilton Cobb, Joseph Maerz, T. J. Killen, J. A. Flournoy, W. E. Mitchell, and Walter Houser.

1935

The city was gradually recovering from the effects of the depression as the year 1935 began, but were reminded of the general economic state of the nation by the announcement in January that the deficit spending of the United States treasury was to continue on a large scale. Mayor Herbert Smart drew state-wide attention during January when he wired Governor Talmadge that Macon would be happy to have the newly planned state farmers' market erected here, along with the moving of the state capitol to this city. Approximately 80 members of the National Guard from this city were silently rushed to Rossville in North Georgia where violence had broken out as a result of a strike in the textile industry. Figures released for the previous year showed that Macon had 26 homicides during that period, 18 resulting from murders and 8 from suicide.

An epidemic of influenza struck the city during January, but it was of the mild variety. On February 7th Governor Talmadge visited the city and was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce. During the same month, two state senators, Charles C. Fulgham and George H. Carswell, died in the city with less than a week's time between the two deaths. Throughout the entire month of February, Maconites were tremendously interested in the developments in the Lindbergh baby kidnapping and the trial of Bruno Richard Hauptmann, who was accused as the kidnapper. Hauptmann was sentenced to the electric chair after a long trial in New Jersey. The trial covered much of the front page space in the Macon Telegraph. Macon music lovers were treated to a performance by Jose Iturbi, famous artist, during the latter part of the month.

Many conventions were held in the city during the year, the largest and most important being those of the Masonic Lodge, the Georgia Education Association, and the Prohibition Party. Several business changes occurred during the year. R. A. McCord, local financier, acquired the Macon franchise from the Ford Motor Company; J. C. Penney opened a new store at 362-4 Third Street; and several new chain

stores moved here. The City Hall was remodeled at a cost of approximately $400,000, and a new bridge across the Ocmulgee at Spring Street was opened and named in honor of the late W. L. "Young" Stribling. General Walter A. Harris was selected by a committee as Macon's leading citizen, and W. A. Patillo, the present postmaster, was appointed to that office by President Roosevelt.

In the field of politics, Mayor Herbert Smart and his administration were returned to office in a hotly contested election, winning out over Walter T. Johnson, local attorney, and his "Citizen's Ticket". Bibb County in an election during May voted 2,082 to 1,503 to legalize the sale of alcoholic beverages. However, the drys won out in the state election by a vote of 82,019 to 91,929.[15]

1936

The year 1936 was marked by much political activity in Macon. Macon citizens took an active part in the national, state, and county elections. Many conventions and rallies representing various candidates and factions were held in the city. In the national election, President Roosevelt was again victorious. The Democrats carried the state by a vote of 135,023 to 13,218. In the state elections, E. D. Rivers and Richard B. Russell carried Bibb County in their race for Governor and Senator, winning over Charles Redwine and Eugene Talmadge, respectively. In the local elections, those elected to board of county commissioners included Troy M. Raines, J. B. Neighbors, Leon S. Dure, W. O. Kinney, and W. H. M. Weaver. Representatives from Bibb County to the state legislature included Eugene Horne, W. M. Weaver, and R. H. Freeman, Jr.

A marked decline in serious crimes was noted in the city and Bibb County from the annual report given by J. C. Smith, city-county identification expert. Macon was seen as the "agricultural capital of Georgia" as the new farmers' market opened for business in July. Postoffice receipts showed a substantial increase as a definite indication of an upward trend in business. The public schools of the city received 40,000 new textbooks during August as free textbooks began to be provided by the state. Work on the Ocmulgee National Monument was started, this project having been undertaken largely through the efforts of General Walter Harris, president of the Historical Society.

Two storms with tornadic winds struck the city during the year, the first on January 30th and the second on June 20th. Both caused extensive damage throughout this area and the second resulted in the death of two Negroes. Macon and Bibb County farmers were also affected by a severe drought during the summer which caused damage of $100,000,000 to farm crops throughout the state.

Several prominent citizens died during the year. On January 6th, Mrs. J. H. Blount, one of the South's most outstanding women of the

15. Summary of news from Macon Telegraph and News by James Findlay.

Confederacy, died in Macon. On January 12th, Luther Williams, civic and business leader and three times Mayor of Macon, died at his home on Boulevard. On September 21st, John M. McMillan, chief deputy clerk of Bibb Superior Court, died of a heart attack.

Of particular interest to Maconites was the appointment in May of Herbert M. Bloch as a registrar of Bibb County. This was the first time in many years that a Republican was named to that post. Local citizens were also still interested in the Lindbergh kidnapping. Bruno Richard Hauptmann, the convicted kidnapper, went to the electric chair on April 4th, and several Maconites indicated their continued interest by making telephone calls to the death house in New Jersey after the scheduled execution. The love affair between King Edward VIII, the former Prince of Wales, and Wally Simpson, of Baltimore; their subsequent marriage; and finally his abdication of the British throne were of unusual interest to Maconites.

During the year, the city was visited by many prominent leaders in the Democratic Party; by Dr. William Beebe, the famous deep-sea scientist; Vincent Lopez, noted musician; and several other celebrities in the field of entertainment. Work was started on the construction of the Herbert Smart Airport near old Camp Wheeler.

1937

With the exception of a lively political race for the office of Mayor and Aldermen, the year 1937 was a relatively quiet and uneventful one for the city. During the early part of the year, a new kaolin plant started operations which offered employment to approximately 40 workers. The city was visited in the spring by George Cukor production director of the Selznick Film Corporation, who came here to study architectural type for use in the production of Margaret Mitchell's best seller "Gone With the Wind". So great was the calendar of divorce cases in Bibb Superior Court during February that Judge Malcolm D. Jones named February 19th as "Divorce Day" in an effort to place proper emphasis upon this problem.

A Macon attorney, Warren Grice, was named to the state Supreme Court in September by Governor Ed Rivers. The ownership of the Massee Apartments was transferred during the fall from H. K. Burns to T. C. Tarver. About the same time, Herbert Smart Airport was dedicated and announcement was made that the work of restoring the Council Room at the Indian Mounds was almost completed.

The highlight of the year's activity occurred during the summer in the race between G. Glen Toole and Charles H. Bowden for the Mayor's position. Mr. Toole announced a slate of aldermen composed of business and professional men who had never been active in politics. Mr. Bowden organized his slate of aldermen around a nucleus of several strong political figures. Election returns showed that candidates with political experience as a rule have an advantage over the others since

Mr. Bowden and his slate, with one or two exceptions, were elected by a majority of almost 1,000 votes.

In another election held in June, Bibb County again voted in favor of the repeal of the prohibition laws by a vote of 2,510 to 2,030. However, in the state as a whole the prohibition forces won by a majority of 8,277 votes.

1938

On January 1st, 1938, announcement was made concerning Macon's first super-market. Theo J. Volk, local realtor, disclosed that the Rogers Grocery Store Corporation had obtained a lease to the old Georgia Feed Store, which they planned to remodel and operate. Shortly afterwards, another lease was consummated with the Southern Grocery Store Incorporated involving property at 465-69 Third Street. A supermarket, costing approximately $15,000 was planned for this site. A third chain store deal involved preparatory work by the Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company on a proposed "master-market" at the site of the old jail building at the foot of Mulberry Street.

Considerable expansion and business improvement was noted throughout the year. Among some of the larger projects was that of the First National Bank which greatly enlarged its quarters and remodeled the building which it presently occupies.

Tragedy struck the life of one of Macon's peace officers during May. Fifteen minutes after winning his promotion as captain, Detective J. M. Dopson was shot in the back by a crazed negro, and died enroute to the Macon Hospital. Two prominent Macon women died during the year, Mrs. C. R. Pendleton, widow of the former editor of the Macon Telegraph, and Mrs. W. G. Lee, wife of Dr. W. G. Lee, prominent civic and financial leader.

A colorful exhibit of Macon's fire department was held during the summer at Central City Park. The local fire-fighting organization was reputed to be among the select few in the nation with complete motorized equipment. The Ocmulgee River left its banks during late spring and rose above the 20-foot mark. Juniper Creek, near Byron, crashed through a $600 dam at Camp Benjamin Hawkins, the Boy Scout center, and considerable damage to cattle and property was reported.

In politics, Representatives Freeman and Flanders re-opened the fight to move the state capital from Atlanta to Macon and gained considerable support before their effort was defeated. The city had previously purchased Tattnall Square Park and ear-marked this location for the site of the future state capitol.[16]

1939

During January, 1939, Miss Susan Myrick, well-known Macon writer, was selected as technical adviser for the filming of the movie, "Gone With the Wind". The Telegraph feature writer and columnist

16. News summary from Macon Telegraph and News by Joe Andrews.

traveled to Atlanta by automobile, where she left by plane for Hollywood, California. David O. Selznick, president of the film company producing the movie of Margaret Mitchell's best seller, stated "You may be sure that no effort will be spared to make the production authentic."

On January 29th, Zack T. Trice, brother of Reginald Trice and assistant manager of the local Sinclair Refining Company, was shot and killed during a holdup at his office. Over a thousand dollars was lost in the robbery. Trice died enroute to the hospital.

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the top floors of the Morris Putzel store and the R. S. Thorpe & Sons clothing store on the night of April 11th, and caused considerable damage to the Hotel Dempsey. Fire Chief J. E. Dellinger estimated the damage at $75,000. Besides the three damaged buildings, occupying half of a down-town block, the fire also threatened the Economy Shoe Repairers and the French Dry Cleaners across the alley from Putzel's, and caused some smoke damage.

John A. Porter, retired head of the manufacturing department of the Bibb Manufacturing Company, died on April 23rd at Orlando, Florida, of a heart attack. He was 68 years old. On May 9th, another Maconite, Romas Hollin Raley, veteran Bibb County deputy sheriff, died of a heart attack, after nearly thirty years of service with the county.

Bibb County abolished its century-old chain-gang on June 25th and remanded to the state 133 prisoners for distribution among ten state and county farms. On July 25th, four fires were reported, traffic lights snuffed out, and paving damaged as a violent electrical storm struck the Macon area. The weather office reported two inches of rain in less than an hour. Damage was centered around down-town Second Street. Dr. John D. Freeman, veteran professor at Mercer, retired during August after fifty years of service in his profession. Dr. Freeman stated that "he and his wife will continue to live in Macon".

A reorganization of the handling of traffic in the city was announced at the August meeting of City Council. A sixty-day experiment was voted upon to decide between parallel and angle parking in congested areas. Parallel parking was described as allowing more street space while angle parking accommodated more cars.

Judge W. A. McClellan, brilliant criminal lawyer and jurist, died on August 24th of stomach trouble and heart complications. Judge McClellan had been active in the legal profession for 34 years, and had the distinction of having defended 155 capital cases without a single one resulting in an execution. He was noted for his fairness, and was one of the most popular men ever to sit on the bench.

In September, the pressure of a war three thousand miles away was felt in Macon as prices rose sharply. Cattle prices advanced 25 cents per 100 pounds, rice jumped 60% in value, and bread prices were

hiked substantially. Recruiting officers in Macon also showed the results of the foreign conflict, reporting a steady increase in the number of men volunteering for the armed forces.

James H. Porter, Bibb Manufacturing Company executive and Macon philanthropist, presented Wesleyan College with a gift of $100,000 in October in the drive to repurchase Wesleyan properties. An additional $150,000 was pledged by the Georgia Methodists and other friends of the college. The gift was a memorial to Mr. Porter's wife, the late Olive Swann Porter.

A large building project was disclosed during November when Preston S. Arkwright, president of the Georgia Power Company, announced plans for the immediate construction of a $4,000,000 electric generating plant in the Macon area. The plant would be operated by steam, and have a capacity of 60,000 horsepower. When completed, it was to be capable of producing one million kilowatt hours per day. Also, during the same month, the Macon Postoffice effected the greatest expansion in more than 25 years when regular delivery of mail to areas in South Macon, West Macon, Shirley Hills, and East Macon was inaugurated.

Robert J. Taylor, Macon philanthropist, who accumulated a fortune as a merchant, drug executive, and banker, died in Atlanta on November 30th. He was 85 years old.

The world premier showing of the film production based on Margaret Mitchell's book, "Gone With the Wind", was staged in Atlanta on December 13th with Hollywood stars, film celebrities, and many prominent people in attendance. One week later, an advance showing of the picture was given at the Grand Theater in Macon. This was a special event which proved to be one of the social highlights of the season.[17]

1940

Macon citizens were much surprised on the morning of March 16th when they read in the Telegraph that Ed Rivers, Governor of Georgia, had been arrested by Federal authorities the previous evening on the platform of the Macon Auditorium after making a popular address before members of the Georgia Education Association, convened in the city. The action was part of a political feud which had been building up for several months and climaxed Governor Rivers' failure to recognize W. L. Miller as Chairman of the State Highway Board. The Governor was released from custody upon the presentation of proper legal papers.

Announcement was made in May of the proposed construction of a new 14-story office building for the Bankers Health & Life Insurance Company. Officials disclosed that the old building at the corner of Cherry and Cotton Avenue would be demolished, and that the new

17. News summary from Macon Telegraph and News by Jack Cowart.

structure would occupy the entire triangle between Cotton and First Streets on Cherry. A five-story building of the company which was constructed in 1924 was to be changed to become an integral part of the new structure. The new building was described as a monument to the business enterprise of P. L. Hay, president of the organization, who organized the insurance company in 1904 while occupying two offices in the Grand Building. Other officials of the business include Peyton W. Jones, N. T. Weaver, P. L. Hay, Jr., H. T. Anderson, and J. W. McCook, Jr. Cost of the new structure was estimated at $500,000.

Five hundred of Macon's citizen soldiers, members of the National Guard, left for a three-week training period at Camp Selby, Mississippi, during August. Fifty other local officers in the Reserve Corps voluntarily offered their services to prepare for the national defense program.

During the same month, Macon leaders voiced hearty approval of the Macon War Defense Council's plans to bring new industries and installations to this city. Mayor Bowden pointed out that Macon was as well qualified for this as any other city in this section, and cited the advantages of the city's location, facilities, and climate. Karl Slocum and Troy Raines also spoke enthusiastically of the plans.

September 16th was set as the date for the mobilization of local units of the National Guard into the 30th Division by Major General Henry D. Russell of this city, division commander. This announcement followed a meeting of the Adjutant Generals of Georgia, North and South Carolina, and Tennessee, the four states furnishing troops for this division. Camp Jackson near Columbia, South Carolina, was designated as the training site for the division.

Many beautification projects were noted throughout the city during the summer and fall months as the city administration pushed a badly needed paving program. An increase in the number of water meters and paint purchases were evident. D. O. Brown, manager of a local paint store, commented that "Many people are taking more pride in their homes now that their streets have been paved."

The city was host to two rival political forces, both of whom met here within a one-week period, during the latter part of September. The victorious Talmadge forces pledged their allegiance to their newly elected Governor, Gene Talmadge. The Independent Democrats or "Wilkiecrats" nominated Wendell Wilkie for President. Large delegations from all over the state attended both meetings, and much speculation over future actions of the groups took place.

On October 12th, announcement was made that Macon had been selected as the site for a $5,775,000 Army training camp. The War Department also disclosed a $450,000 project for improving the Herbert Smart Airport, and a $1,000,000 fuse loading plant was announced by the Navy. The camp was to serve as a replacement center where recruits would receive their initial army training; the fuse plant would include several buildings, and employ both skilled and unskilled labor:

plans for the airport included general enlargement and paving of the runways.

October 16th was registration day throughout the nation, and over 16,000 young men registered at the various public schools in Bibb County for possible military service. In November, two Macon men were killed in a train wreck near Jesup, which was caused by an open switch. They were identified as A. B. Mercer and P. M. Johnson. During the same month, the way was cleared for completion of the work at Camp Wheeler by the formal transfer of 2,300 acres of land to the government. In December, Brigadier General Walter R. Weaver announced that the War Department had accepted a site nine miles south of Macon for a 1,000-acre training school for pilots.

1941

On January 1st, 1941, John Owings was sworn in as Mayor Pro Tem to fill the unexpired term of W. H. Pittman, resigned. The Council "accepted with regret" the resignation of Pittman. Alderman Owings was serving his second term. During the same month, a general alarm fire destroyed Coke's studios in a spectacular blaze which lasted most of the night. Fire officials stated that the blaze originated in the dark room. Damages were heavy. On January 28th, Macon was officially designated as the site for an Army air training base. According to Representative Carl Vinson, Macon was considered "very suitable" for this type of military installation. The field was to receive men already able to fly and give them ten weeks of training. Over 200 planes were ordered sent here for training purposes. Construction was planned immediately upon purchase of the desired land.

The Navy announced on March 7th that it planned to double the local fuse plant by a $2,000,000 addition. The number of employees were likewise doubled, bringing the entire personnel close to 4,000. The plant manufactured, assembled, and loaded naval shell fuses. Captain A. C. Lindloff, general manager, conferred with officials in Washington concerning the expansion project. On March 15th, announcement was made that Macon, with a population of 74,800, had become the third largest city in Georgia. The new status placed only Atlanta and Savannah above this city in population. This represented an increase of more than 15,000 in recent years. Most of the growth in population was in the suburban areas.

A big investigation concerning sabotage at the fuse plant was launched by the Navy during April. Congressman Dies headed a congressional committee looking into the matter, and stated that the probe would be conducted with the strictest secrecy. Many people connected with the plant were interviewed by the committee.

The giant Arkwright Plant of the Georgia Power Company began operations on June 5th, 30 days ahead of schedule. Officials of the plant stated that all possible kilowatts will be used for national defense. A

huge air base had also been located at Wellston, 14.5 miles below Macon. Cost of the base was estimated at about $14,000,000. Plans called for the employment of some 5,000 civilian employees. Local contractors had charge of the construction of some 2,000 homes for the workers, most of whom were skilled specialists.

On June 27th, a $10,000,000 expansion project was announced for the recently completed Army air corps depot. Colonel R. H. Elliott was named as construction quartermaster, and it was stated that Army engineers would do the construction work. Over 2,000 acres were designated for this project.

One of the most unusual and remarkable crimes in Macon's history occurred during the latter part of June involving $31,617 stolen from the United States mail, and a young postal clerk who told officers that he was a "sleep-walker" and might have stolen the money while in a "sleep-trance". The self-styled somnambulist, Henry L. Chancey, was on duty when a shipment of mail came through from Albany, including a consignment of more than $30,000 in cash for the Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta. Shortly thereafter, more than $30,000 in cash was discovered missing. Detectives suspected Chancey since he was the only person who had been alone with the money. He was placed under arrest and questioned shortly thereafter, presumably while "sleep-walking", he led detectives and county police to a farm near Rutland where the cash was found buried in a shallow hole. Chancey confessed complete innocence for his actions. He stated that he developed somnambulism while in the Marine Corps and was treated in an Army hospital for this. He also commented that he never knew when he was going to enter one of these trances and that after sleep-walking episodes he had no recollection of what had transpired. He was held by the Federal authorities and arraigned before the United States Commissioner.

Contracts for the construction of the Army air corps depot at Warner Robins were awarded on August 15th, and within an hour Colonel R. H. Elliott, engineer in charge of the project, had instructed the contractors to "start work at once". The total cost of construction was estimated at $15,000,000 and plans called for more than 3,000 workers to be employed during the peak of construction activity.

On September 3rd, Bibb County commissioners hiked the county tax rate by five mills, bringing the total amount to a record-breaking figure of 26 mills. The county budget for the year was set at $1,030,-473.08. During the same month, the Bibb County Board of Education as a precautionary move designed to prevent the spread of polio here, ordered the opening of public schools delayed one week from September 10th to September 17th.

Walter D. Lamar, prominent Macon business and civic leader, died at his home on Georgia Avenue during the month of September. He was 78 years of age. General George C. Marshall, chief-of-staff of the United

States Army, visited the city on September 27th and inspected the military establishments in this area. During the week of October 20th, the city was subjected for the first time to attack from the air. It was all part of a training project which called for realistic air raids by pilots in training upon strategic locations in the Macon area.

On October 3rd, the Macon Board of Water Commissioners received word of presidential approval of a P.W.A. grant for expanding the city's water facilities. Under this grant, the government allotted 40% of the needed money while the P.W.A. furnished the remaining 60%. More than a half million dollars in all were used for this project.

War preparedness came even closer on October 27th when a motor convoy of trucks and armored equipment over 40 miles long passed through the city. More than two hours were required for the convoy to clear the local streets despite the fact that they were given police escorts, rights-of-way, and proceeded at a fair rate of speed. The convoy was on its way from Fort Benning to North Carolina where it was scheduled to perform in Army maneuvers.

Announcement was made in November by the Office of Production Management in Washington that the usual strings of brilliant, colored lights which adorn Macon's Cherry Street at Christmas time would not be displayed that year. This move was made in Macon as well as other cities throughout the nation as part of a power-conservation drive.

Maconites were stunned with the sudden announcement on Sunday afternoon, December 7th, that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor, causing great damage and loss of lives to American forces. It was still difficult for them to realize the headlines in the Telegraph the next morning which read: "U. S. at War with Japs—Pacific Islands Bombed —Hundreds Killed in Sudden Attack on Hawaiian Ports". On the same day, hundreds listened eagerly for President Roosevelt's message to Congress which began with the now famous paragraph, "Yesterday, December 7, 1941,—a date which will live in infamy,—the United States was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan." The President requested that a state of war be declared by Congress, and his request was granted shortly thereafter.

Three Maconites were aboard naval vessels attacked at Pearl Harbor. They were Ensign Bayne Barfield, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Barfield; Lieutenant Cary Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. E. Hall; and Lieutenant B. Campbell Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Hall, Sr.

Two days later, President Roosevelt addressed the American public in one of his most notable "fireside chats" in which he evaluated the position of the United States with reference to the rest of the world. He stated that "Powerful and resourceful gangsters have banded together to make war upon the whole human race. Their challenge has now been flung at the United States of America. The Japanese have treacherously violated the long-standing peace between us. Many American soldiers and sailors have been killed by enemy action. Amer-

ican ships have been sunk. American airplanes have been destroyed.

"The Congress and the people of the United States have accepted that challenge.

"Together with other free people, we are now fighting to maintain our right to live among our world neighbors in freedom and in common decency, without fear of assault."

He pointed out the patience of this country in trying to keep peace.

He ridiculed the Jap claim of supremacy in the Pacific. He accused the Nazis of pushing Japan into the war against us. He stated that the sources of brutality must be permanently wrecked. He evaluated our ability to wage an all-out war, and closed with the quotation "We are going to win the war, and are going to win the peace that follows."

On December 11th, Governor Eugene Talmadge called out the Home Guard at the request of the Army. Macon members were mobilized by Major M. C. Balkon, district commander, and ordered to active 24-hour duty to guard vital power, utility, and transportation services. On the same day, Captain Roland Neel, commander of the Macon forces announced that he had received fifty applications for membership in two days.

1942

Quite a ripple of excitement was created in February, 1942, when Macon citizens learned that they had been visited by a blonde German spy, who visited at Camp Wheeler and took pictures of that military center for the Axis. Lucy Boehmler, the confessed spy, stated that she made the trip with a man charged by the government as a German espionage leader. At Camp Wheeler, she made photographs and notes of important locations. She testified in New York as a key witness before a Federal Court.

Macon experienced its first total blackout in more than a hundred years on February 14th when the city simulated an air attack by the enemy and plunged itself into total darkness. The blackout was completed within 13 minutes and the city was in utter darkness for thirty minutes. This precaution against attack from the air at night was termed a huge success. Hundreds of local citizens participated as air raid wardens, first aid personnel, auxiliary policemen, ambulance drivers, fire fighters, and the like. The war was brought very close to home by this experiment.

On April 29th came the announcement from the Office of Price Administration that rents would be fixed in the Macon area. Plans provided that rents would be frozen at the April 1st, 1941, level. A volunteer fair rents committee here abandoned its project just a few days before government intervention. Macon was one of 302 "defense rental areas" to be affected. Eight Macon mothers, referred to as "star mothers" were honor guests at a Mother's Day service held during May at the city auditorium. Each of these eight mothers had three or more sons in the armed forces. Included among them were Mrs. George

Hatcher, Mrs. Clifford Mitchell, Mrs. J. C. Stewart, Mrs. W. T. Ashmore, Mrs. A. G. Persons, Mrs. Charles Mathis, and Mrs. Lee Barfield. Also during the month, the Arkwright plant of the Georgia Power Company here became the second largest power plant in Georgia. With the opening of the new addition, the size of the plant was exactly doubled, producing a total of 120,000 horsepower. High voltage lines now radiate from all directions, making Macon the hub of Middle Georgia's electric power supply.

On June 30th, Andrew J. Lyndon, local attorney, was named rent administrator for this area and rent control in Macon was officially ordered by the national government. Fifty-four other cities were ordered regulated at the same time by Leon Henderson of the national office of price administration.

J. Grady Favors, Macon policeman, was killed; Captain Marvin Whitmire, of the military police at Camp Wheeler, was critically wounded; a Negro soldier suffered severe head injuries; and several others received minor bruises as violence flared in the business section of the city during the latter part of August. The Negro soldier was arrested for causing a disturbance at the bus depot on Broadway, and his attempt to escape caused the riot. A mob, which quickly gathered after the shooting, was dispersed by both military and civilian police. Private Edmund Reed, the Negro soldier, was later tried and convicted by the Superior Court of Bibb County and sentenced to death. On August 27th, announcement was made of the appointment of Colonel Frederick D. Griffith, Jr., of Sacramento, California, as the commanding officer at Camp Wheeler.

An outright grant of $47,000 to be used for the construction of a Negro addition to the Macon Hospital was authorized on September 2nd by the F.W.A. authorities. During the same month, two tiny children were burned to death when they were trapped in a flaming closet on the second floor of a rooming house at 605 First Street. James Richards and Billy Andrews, 3 and 4 years old respectively, were dead when the firemen arrived. The cause of the blaze was not determined but observers blamed faulty wiring. On September 28th, Veronica Lake, Hollywood movie star, visited Macon to attend a huge war bond drive, at which she was the main attraction. "We've got to carry on," was the theme of her address which was enthusiastically received by a large gathering. Her corsage was auctioned after the ceremony and was purchased by a representative of Peeler Hardware Company. A damaging fire occurred at the Biltmore Apartments, corner of Poplar and New Streets, during September, causing property damage amounting to $6,000 and depriving more than five score residents of their homes. The blaze started on the roof of the building near the elevator shaft. All city firemen were called to emergency duty, and fought the blaze practically the entire night. Cause of the fire was undetermined.

Miss Florence Bernd, beloved teacher for over half a century in the

public schools of this city, died on October 21st. She taught at the Lanier High School for Boys for many years. One of the strangest kidnapping cases in the city's history occurred on December 7th when a young four-year old child, Sylvia Grooms, was reported missing from her home. Officers conducted an intensive search and discovered her late the following day at the Indian Mounds, approximately a mile from her home. She managed to escape from her captors and remained hidden until rescuers arrived. On December 16th, three men were killed instantly when a south-bound train of the Central of Georgia Railroad collided with an automobile at Walden. The dead were identified as Robert G. Ferrell, engineer, and Henry Gaskins, fireman. None of the train passengers were injured. Also killed was Private Robert L. Packard, driver of the automobile.

1943

On January 9th, 1943, Macon motorists were given notice that the ban on pleasure driving by the Office of Price Administration would be strictly enforced. Mayor Bowden agreed to allow policemen to serve as special O.P.A. inspectors in an all-out effort to conserve motor fuel. Even more stringent war measures were adopted during February when Macon workers in essential jobs were "frozen" at their positions as of that date. Thousands of Maconites were affected by the ruling of the War Manpower Commission which stated that workers on present essential jobs must remain there or secure special permission to shift to some other essential occupation.

Colonel Robert L. Scott, Macon hero of the Flying Tigers in China, returned to his home town on February 9th amid elaborate welcoming ceremonies. The Lanier High band, local Scout organizations, and civic groups participated in impressive ceremonies at the city auditorium. Colonel Scott, who was born and reared in this city, led General Chennault's squadron in the number of planes shot down over China and Burma, and was presented with the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, and other decorations for his aviation achievements.

Over 203,000 pounds of scrap were collected in Macon during a huge drive which highlighted Macon's war effort in February. Mayor Bowden headed the drive which was sponsored by local businessmen. Trucks and volunteer workers collected large piles of scrap piled on the sidewalks. Macon school children were very active in their efforts to aid the defense program. During the same month, long lines of Maconites waited at the various city schools to receive War Ration Books. More than 100,000 ration books were issued. The second "blackout" of the war period was held on April 9th. It was only partially successful, however, as some lights in and near the city were not extinguished. Two furniture companies and a shoe store were responsible for the illumination in the downtown area. Violation in suburban area consisted of lights being left on in residences and cotton mills. Boyce Miller,

commander of civilian defense, directed the experiment, which lasted from 10:00 until 10:35 P. M.

Leland Harvey and D. C. Black, prison escapees, were captured near the city in a heavily wooded area on April 26th. The men were surprised by officers when they attempted to get some sleep in a stolen automobile. Both surrendered without resistance when they saw that they were surrounded. The prisoners escaped from the state penitentiary at Reidsville. Harvey already was regarded as one of the most elusive criminals in the country. Two days later, both men escaped from the supposedly "escape-proof" Bibb County jail. They overpowered their guard and made good their escape during the early evening. A Negro trusty confessed that he supplied them with a gun. Approximately ten days later, Harvey was recaptured by Macon officers as he attempted to rob the A & P Super Market at the foot of Mulberry.

On June 26th, Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, wife of the Generalissimo of China, returned to Macon for a visit with old friends. The first lady of China had previously attended Wesleyan College, and lived in this city for several years. Thousands of people clamored to secure tickets for a performance at the old Wesleyan chapel where she made a public address. Many were turned away since the chapel could accommodate only 900 persons. Although her remarks were informal and unprepared, they were well received by the group, and centered around the thought in the poem: "Life is mainly froth and bubbles, Two things stand like stone, Kindness in others' troubles, Courage in our own."

Wesleyan College was the recipient of a gift of $10,000 on September 11th when news was received that Madam H. H. Kung, the oldest sister of the Soong family of China, had contributed that amount in honor of the former president, DuPont Guerry. Macon lost one of its foremost industrialists, civic leaders, and philanthropists on September 19th with the passing of Morris Michael. Mr. Michael was sixty years old and had long been prominent in the affairs of this city.

On December 15th, Maconites gaped at one of the rarest phenomena for this section as a current cold wave brought the record snowfall since 1937. Snow began falling at 10:00 A.M. and continued for several hours. The ground was well covered in and around the city. The heaviest fall in this section was at Eastman where more than two inches were recorded.

1944

Business leaders, bankers, workers and housewives attended a public meeting at the City Hall on January 11th to discuss plans involving the city's future prosperity. At this meeting, Macon citizens heard reports of the work which had already been done to assure prosperous years. Individuals were asked to give their opinions concerning methods being used, and many made suggestions for broadening and improving the program.

The United States Navy traded ships with Macon during February. Instead of the frigate type escort-vessel which was originally proposed to bear the city's name, the new ship proposed was a heavy cruiser with eight-inch guns, capable of fighting on its own. The news of the change in plans was received by Mayor Charles L. Bowden in a communication from Carl Vinson, chairman of the House Naval Affairs Committee, following a recent decision by the Navy Department.

Peyton T. Anderson, newspaper executive and business and civic leader of Middle Georgia, died unexpectedly on February 8th. He was 70 years old. At the time of his death, Mr. Anderson was executive vice-president of The Macon Telegraph Publishing Company. He was a director of the Citizens and Southern National Bank, and had wide interests here, both business and civic.

A campaign to provide Macon with a $100,000 civic fund for post-war business progress and security was initiated during April by Mayor Charles L. Bowden, chairman. This amount was raised in a relatively short period of time.

On May 26th, war against slackers in the City of Macon was declared. With the "work or fight" ordinance as its basis, the city police department opened a drive against absenteeism, which within its first 48 hours brought 40 persons into custody on charges of loitering and not working. Acting Police Chief Robert L. Miller said that this attack on absenteeism was just beginning.

A heavy wind and rain storm, accompanied by an electrical display that resulted in power interruptions in many sections of Macon, struck the city on July 2nd. A two-story house was destroyed by fire during the storm, which kept Vineville firemen busy during the entire night. The occupants of the house escaped without injury. The high wind caused many power lines to be blown down, and resulted in a blackout of more than an hour's duration in the entire Cherokee Heights section, the neighborhood around Mercer University, and certain parts of South Macon, Walnut Street, and Vineville.

Another step was taken to provide future progress and security for Macon and vicinity in July, when it was announced that two major goals of the post-war program were already achieved. Through the first of two successfully accomplished enterprises, a $100,000 fund had already been raised for promotion of post-war projects. The second goal, reached after a month of preliminary work, was the formal organization of the Macon Area Commission to administer this fund, under a charter which was officially adopted, with William A. Fickling, prominent business and civic leader, as president.

Announcement was made on July 29th by the Catholic Order and Dr. A. R. Rozar, infirmary president, that the Oglethorpe Private Infirmary had been sold to the Sisters of Mercy of the Province of Baltimore. The infirmary had been owned and operated for many years by Dr. Rozar's group and served the city well in hospitalization

services. The sisters assumed control of the infirmary on August 1, at which time the name was changed to Mercy Hospital.

August 15th was an important date in the history of the city's government. At a city council meeting held on that date, provisions were set up to liquidate the city's entire outstanding bonded indebtedness and give Macon an absolute clear financial record for the first time in almost a century. The Mayor was authorized to retire all bonds which the holders were willing to surrender, and to set up trust funds in the local banks used as depositories by the city to retire the remaining bonds as they became due. In tracing the city's financial record it was disclosed that successive bond issues had by 1937 brought the city's indebtedness up to a total of $930,795 for principal and interest on all of the issues. Additional debt certificates issued in 1939 and 1941 to meet salaries and other responsibilities of the city increased the obligation to a total of $1,470,757.50.

Charles L. Bowden, Mayor of Macon, was elected to head a Georgia State Aeronautics Association to foster aviation legislation and air advancement for this state. Lee S. Trimble, executive vice-president of the Macon Chamber of Commerce, was named secretary of the board.

On November 19th, the Sixth War Loan Campaign was officially started with T. I. Denmark, serving as County War Finance Chairman. Macon was assigned a quota of $5,581,000 during the drive.[18]

1945

Establishment of the Roberts School for Christianity at Mercer University, honoring Columbus Roberts, whose third gift of $200,000 to the Baptist educational institution made this branch possible, was announced on January 15th, 1945, at a meeting of the board of trustees gathered for the Founder's Day ceremonies at the university.

Colonel Thomas G .Taylor, recently returned from the China-Burma-India theatre of operation, where he served under General Joseph Stillwell, took over the duties of post commander at Camp Wheeler on February 13, relieving Colonel James Blakenly, who was assigned to this post temporarily. Colonel Blakenly, returned to the Fourth Service Command Headquarters in Atlanta, where he was previously assigned.

One of the most festive and gala occasions in the entertainment history of the city occurred on February 21st when the world premier showing of the motion picture based on Colonel Robert L. Scott's book, "God Is My Co-Pilot", took place in Macon. The premier was shown at the Grand Theater, and the Hollywood stars who played the leading roles in the picture were guests of honor. Included among these were Dennis Morgan, Janis Page, and Mr. and Mrs. Alan Hale. Several of the characters in the book were also present, as was Colonel Scott, his family and many friends. A series of social events accompanied the

18. News summary from Macon Telegraph and News by George Lumpkin.

world premier presentation, which included a grand reception given by Mrs. Walter D. Lamar at her home on College Street for the author and other dignitaries.

On March 17th three Bibb County residents were killed and two critically injured by an explosion of undetermined origin on the Camp Wheeler border line. An Army board was appointed to investigate the explosion. The dead were listed as Stanley Folmar, Robert Philips, and James Avery. Ernest Evans and Jimmy Avery were critically injured.

Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, internationally known figure in aviation and combat pilot in two World Wars, was the principal speaker at the annual Macon Chamber of Commerce meeting held in the Municipal Auditorium on April 6. More than 3,000 people from Middle Georgia packed the auditorium to hear the former war ace.

Plans for a community march of progress to improve Macon and Middle Georgia through cooperative work on vital projects which will benefit the entire section, were outlined during April by committee leaders of the Chamber of Commerce. More and better airline service, more industries, research and demonstration to improve farming methods for higher incomes, and better highways and roads were among the goals outlined for the direct benefit of this whole section.

Two Macon trainmen were seriously injured when four freight cars were demolished and the engine, tender, and four cars were derailed at a siding on June 18th north of Cochran. The two men were R. L. Elder, fireman on the Kansas City Special, who suffered a crushed chest and amputation of the right leg, and Dan McGregor, who had a fractured hip, left arm, and shoulder injuries. Both men were brought to the Macon Hospital for treatment.

A blanket salary increase of five per cent for all city employees was authorized by city council, to become effective on July 1. The council's action was taken on the recommendation of the finance committee and more than 400 city employees were affected by the raise.

On July 15, announcement was made by the Navy Department that Macon's newest fighting namesake, the heavy cruiser, USS Macon, was ready to go into action. The ship's war career was officially begun on August 12, when it was commissioned as a part of the U. S. Navy in ceremonies at the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Mayor and Mrs. Charles L. Bowden and other dignitaries from this city attended the ceremonies. Armed with batteries of eight-inch guns and armored against enemy attack, the 13,000-ton cruiser was immediately put into service in the war against Japan.

After weighing all evidence available on the advantage and disadvantage of a paper mill, the board of directors of the Macon Chamber of Commerce and the Macon Area Development Commission directors voted a resolution of welcome on September 8th to the Mead Corporation of Dayton, Ohio, which had announced plans to establish a

$10,000,000 container board plant in this area. The resolution, with one opposing vote was passed after a fact-finding committee had reported to a joint meeting of the Chamber of Commerce board, and the Macon Area Development Commission on the findings of a recent paper mill tour of Savannah and Brunswick.

Macon's telephone service, local and long distance, was disrupted for four hours on October 6th while 352 employees attended a called meeting at the Municipal auditorium, immediately preceded by a walk-out. Earl Moye, of Macon, chairman of the Southern Federation of Telephone Workers here, presided at the meeting.

Macon's famous poet, musician and soldier, Sidney Lanier, was named to the Hall of Fame at New York University during October. Announcement of the selection was made by Dr. John T. McPherson in a telegram to Mrs. Walter D. Lamar, prominent club woman of this city, who headed the move to gain proper recognition for the Macon author.

A Macon merchant, Enrico Di Venuto, was shot to death on a lonely farm road, two and one-half miles from Bloomfield Road on November 13. When found, the body of the murdered man was guarded by a little black and white dog which stayed with the dead man until he was removed some five hours later. Circumstances surrounding the shooting remained a mystery and detectives were assigned to work on the case.

Blistering criticism of city bus service being supplied to Macon by the Georgia Power Company was unleased during December by City Council. Charges that the service was inadequate, and never had been adequate since street cars were taken off, topped the list of grievances. Overcrowding of buses and need for additional bus routes to serve new residential sections also came into the picture. By unanimous vote the aldermen authorized and ordered sent to the Georgia Power Company a letter demanding that adequate city bus service be provided.

Burglars netted over $4,000 in three cases reported to Macon police on December 31st. Henry Matthews, manager of the Belk-Matthews Company, reported that safe crackers had looted the steel safe in his company of $2,786 in currency and $255 in government bonds. E. T. Raspberry, manager of the Camp Wheeler Bus Company, reported that thieves had looted the office of his company and had taken $71 in cash. G. L. Causey, of Thomaston, reported the theft of $225 in cash from his room in the Lanier Hotel.

1946

A fire that started in a downstairs classroom and spread through the front part of the Willet's Biology Building of Mercer University on January 17 caused damage estimated at $25,000. City fire department units from three stations were called in to fight the blaze, which had gained considerable headway before it was discovered.

Plans for making major repairs and improvements to Macon's city



Macon City Hall

Drinnon Photograph by Ralph Jones

hall were outlined during January by Mayor Charles L. Bowden. Included in the list for which funds have been provided were the following: painting of the entire exterior and interior and alterations in the office space on the main floor of the building. Remodeling of the jail was also planned.

Two new members were elected to the Board of Education on February 14th, according to an announcement by Wallace Miller, Sr., president of the board. McKibben Lane, prominent local attorney, and William P. Simmons, executive with the Southern Crate & Veneer Company, were the new choices of the board. Lane was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of W. T. Anderson and Simmons filled the vacancy caused by the death of J. Ellsworth Hall, Sr.

On February 22nd, a general alarm fire destroyed R. S. Thorpe and Sons, men's clothiers, and threatened the adjacent Hotel Dempsey. The fire resulted in injury to one fireman, John R. Bassett, who suffered a badly cut left hand and loss of blood when hit by a falling window. The total damage was estimated at $150,000, including the loss to the Thorpe company and the building it occupied.

James R. Hicks, sheriff of Bibb County for 35 years, died on March 30th at the Middle Georgia Hospital as the result of a stroke of paralysis. The sheriff had been in poor health for several years.

On April 5, 1946, Dr. Mark A. Smith, school superintendent, placed before the Board of Education a suggested plan of county school expansion which provided for an expenditure of approximately $2,000,000. The recommended expansion program was incorporated in the monthly report of the superintendent, to the board, at its regular meeting.

Construction of the Armstrong Cork Company's huge $4,000,000 plant was launched on May 20th with ground-breaking ceremonies, to which the public was invited. The activities were held at the plant site, corner of New East Side Highway and Guy Paine Road.

A proposal to remove Camp Wheeler barracks to county-owned property and to convert them into duplex apartment units for the use of veterans was approved during June by the County Commissioners. The suggestion for this partial solution of the housing problem in this area was contained in a report offered to the commissioners by a committee headed by Edgar Meaders.

Progress in the field of public health was evident as the Mulberry Street Methodist Church opened its facilities on July 8th for the first free blood tests and free chest X-rays in the history of Macon. Scores of citizens of Macon and Bibb County were guests of the Public Health Department on the opening day of this $81,000 health project.

The Macon Chamber of Commerce's board of directors appropriated $1,000 during September toward financing preparations of a charter covering proposed merger of the Macon and Bibb County governments, and asked city and county officials for similar amounts.

On October 6th, a fire swept through a section of Burns Brick Company, causing damage estimated at more than $25,000.

Social clubs and high school fraternities were on trial at a meeting of the Board of Education on November 8th. After a heated two and a half hour session, the Board granted continued recognition to these organizations but voted to place them under strict supervision by rules and regulations of the Board drafted by a special committee.

Dr. Silas Johnson became the seventeenth president of Wesleyan College and Conservatory of Music and School of Fine Arts in a simple but impressive ceremony on the Rivoli campus on December 3rd. Following the presentation of the new president to the audience by W. D. Anderson, Dr. Johnson spoke briefly, outlining his hopes and objectives.

On December 7th, an extensive scene of wreckage was produced on the outskirts of the city along the main line of the Central of Georgia Railroad between Macon and Atlanta when 21 cars of a 57-car southbound freight train were derailed and strewn over both sides of the track. Wreckage was strewn over a quarter-mile area, turning the road bed into a mass of twisted rails, cross ties, and smashed freight cars.

1947

As the year 1947 began, announcement was made by officials of the Chamber of Commerce that Macon was assured of the greatest convention in its history. Twenty major state gatherings were already definitely scheduled for the first four months and many others were planned for the rest of the year. Over 10,000 visitors were expected to attend the conventions during the first three months.

Many Macon football fans were spectators and thousands of others listened over radios as Georgia's two major colleges brought recognition to the state with victories in "Bowl Games" on New Year's Day The Georgia Bulldogs marched over North Carolina by a 20-10 score in the Sugar Bowl at New Orleans, while the "Rambling Wreck" from Georgia Tech overwhelmed the St. Mary Gaels in the Oil Bowl at Houston, Texas, by a 41-19 margin.

B. F. Merritt, Jr., prominent business and civic leader, was named director of the annual Y.M.C.A. membership drive which was initiated during January. The Farm Program for the Macon area was discussed and considered during the same month at a meeting of the Bibb County Cooperative and the Conservation and Marketing Association. J. R. Henderson, president of the group, presided, and led the discussion.

More than 150 Macon union painters quit work on all projects operated by five local paint contractors during January and refused to return to their jobs. At the same time, union spokesmen for common laborers announced that they were having a general "walk-out" in the immediate future. The painters' "walk-out" resulted from refusal of the five contractors to meet union demands for a 25c an hour pay increase.

At least 25 persons were injured, two seriously, about 3:15 P. M. on January 31st when a tornado struck three separate spots on the outskirts of Macon within the space of only a few minutes, demolishing a large number of buildings, including several residences. It also leveled a hangar at Herbert Smart Airport and completely wrecked 11 airplanes. Damage from the brief but vicious storm was estimated at more than $500,000.

Maconites followed with interest the unusual developments during the early part of the year in state politics which resulted in Georgia having two governors for several weeks. The dispute over the state's highest political office was brought about by the death of Governor-elect Eugene Talmadge before taking office. Talmadge's son, Herman, claimed the office by virtue of several write-in votes and was elected by the State Legislature, which was pro-Talmadge. M. E. Thompson, the newly elected lieutenant-governor, claimed the office by virtue of his legal right to succeed the Governor. Amid turbulent scenes, reminiscent of reconstruction days, the Talmadge forces seized the state offices and took possession of the State Capitol. Thompson appealed

to the courts. The affair was not cleared up until March 20th, when the State Supreme Court ruled in favor of Thompson. A Maconite, Charlie Morgan, who had recently been appointed State Parks Commissioner, was denied access to his office during the period of controversy, but regained his position after the decision of the Supreme Court.

A granite marker bearing a bronze tablet with the names of 227 men from Macon and Bibb County, who gave their lives in World War I, was unveiled on January 26 in ceremonies at Coleman Hill Memorial. Master of ceremonies was Dr. C. C. Harrold and members of the memorial committee included Charles J. Bayne, J. D. Crump, John Dennis, Ward Dennis, Paul G. Doster, Dr. W. G. Lee, James H. Porter, and Reginald Trice.

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson, of the United States Supreme Court, and Georgia's senior senator, Walter F. George, arrived in Macon on April 17th to participate in ceremonies at Mercer University in honor of Senator George, an alumnus of that institution. Vinson made the principal address of the occasion.

Macon was given a new civic club during the winter when the Quota Club, a service club for women, received its charter from Dr. Mary Powell Northam, president of Quota Club International, at presentation rites at the Dempsey Hotel. Mrs. La Velle Zuber, local business woman, served as chairman and presided over the meeting.

For the 34th consecutive year, Charles McBreaty, jolly Irish barber, forsook his shears and clippers on March 17th to make the round of the city distributing tiny green shamrocks to friends and acquaintances in honor of St. Patrick's Day. A prominent Macon physician, Dr. Charles Richardson, Sr., was honored by the University of Georgia with an invitation to deliver the principal address on the annual Crawford W. Long exercises held in the University of Georgia Chapel at Athens on March 30th. Announcement was made during the month also that Charles J. Bayne, associate editor of The Macon Telegraph, had recently completed a book which he named "The Coming of the Crow's Feet," that had been accepted for publication by Tupper and Love, Incorporated, publishers of Atlanta and New York.

Night landings of all Eastern Air Line flights at Herbert Smart Airport were cancelled in early May, 1947, due to the extra hazards caused by cows grazing on the field. City Council passed an ordinance placing heavy fines on owners who allowed their cattle to graze at the airport with a possible sentence of 60 days in the city stockade.

Macon was without telephone service for a period of 33 days during April and May when 500 local operators and personnel of the Southern Bell Telephone Company went on strike for higher wages. It was coast to coast interruption in service that affected the entire nation.

On May 7th, City Council voted to purchase the Pendleton-Felton Homes, constructed here during the war by the Federal Government, and to operate them as a low-cost housing project for veterans. This

action came after a stormy session of debating and discussion. On July 9th, City Council approved a pay increase for all city employees and voted an appropriation for the Macon Hospital which called for expenditure of $130,000 in city funds. A Macon youth, William T. Barnett, son of Colonel and Mrs. J. W. Barnett, was notified of his appointment in June to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Mayor Charles L. Bowden was awarded the 1947 Algernon-Sydney-Sullivan award from Mercer University during the same month for outstanding service in his community during the war years. In July, the State Department announced the appointment of a Macon career diplomat, John Carter Vincent, as minister to Switzerland.

Announcement was made during the summer of a construction project in the Ingleside area which would provide 183 apartment units at a cost of $1,500,000. Commitment for the work was made by the Federal Housing Authorities to Brookhaven Apartments, Incorporated, headed by William A. Fickling, Sanders Walker and Raymond Briggs.

During the year, O. D. Posey, retired Macon citizen, who opened the first motion picture theater in Macon on October 24, 1906, at the old "Theatorium", located in what is now the 400 block of Third Street, was honored by the moving picture industry in this city. He was a special guest at the showing of "The Good Old Days" which included the original motion picture shown in Macon 40 years before, "The Great Train Robbery."

Among the prominent citizens who died during the year were Ben C. Smith, member of one of Macon's oldest families and superintendent of public works for the city; Robert L. McKenney, civic leader and former editor of The Macon News; Dr. William B. Burke, beloved Methodist missionary to China, and member of one of the city's old families; J. B. Warfield, long-time horse trader; J. S. Waldorf, wholesale grocer; Dr. James A. Fountain, prominent physician; and others.

Walter T. Cates, manager of the Macon Chamber of Commerce, was elected president of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce Executive Association at a three-day conference held in Macon during September.

Union representatives of the Macon Building Trades Council on December 2 requested city officials to tighten enforcement of local construction codes. Union spokesmen pointed out that inferior workmanship, particularly regarding electrical work, is resulting from laxity in city inspections, leaving a majority of buildings in Macon improperly checked.

A city budget calling for the expenditure of $1,438,524 for 1948 was presented to city council at its last meeting of the year on Dec. 24th. Stanley A. Elkan, chairman of the Finance Committee, termed the new budget sizeable but balanced. It represented an increase of more than $251,000 over the original 1947 appropriations which totaled around $1,187,000.

1948

Fire started by a freak flame flash razed the Armor Gas Corporation building in Macon's south suburbs on January 4 causing the first fire of the new year. D. Dana Price, corporation president, said he believed gas vapor being bled from an empty railroad tank car settled on the ground around the building and was touched off by a spark. Firemen from the Macon Naval Ordnance Plant two miles away assisted in battling the blaze.

Announcement was made on January 13th that James H. Porter, Macon industrialist and philanthropist, had contributed more than $300,000 to Wesleyan College to finance construction and furnishing of a new chapel building for that institution. Macon and Bibb County voted almost 10 to 1 in favor of a $2,500,000 school and road bond issue during the month. Dr. Mark Smith, county school superintendent, and Wallace Miller, president of the Board of Education, headed the campaign for school expansion which was necessitated by the unusual increase in Macon's population during recent years.

Three persons were injured when a 61-car Central of Georgia freight and a five-car passenger train crashed head-on near Macon on March 17. Most of Macon's ambulances and volunteers from the local Red Cross rushed to the scene of the accident to administer first aid.

Ed Sell, Jr., city attorney, and Wallace Miller, local lawyer, were appointed by City Council at its session on May 17th to study legal procedure involved in extending the city limits. A committee to determine which new sections should be added to the city was also named. Stanley A. Elkan was the principal spokesman at the meeting for city expansion.

W. L. O'Cain, veteran city detective, was shot and killed during June by a Negro identified by police as Junior Moore. After an intensive manhunt, Moore was captured by four officers, questioned at city hall, and transferred to Bibb County Jail on formal murder charges.

Dr. Otto Kress, technical director of the Institute of Paper Chemistry, released an eagerly awaited report during July of his survey of the Macon Kraft Company pulp mill relative to air and stream pollution, which followed a long drawn out controversy over obnoxious odors and the alleged pollution of the Ocmulgee River. The report indicated that the mill is as modern and well equipped as any in the nation and that no expense has been spared in installing top facilities to reduce all chemical losses and minimize odors produced in kraft pulp.

A new 1000-watt independent radio station with call letters WIBB started operation in Macon during September. The station was incorporated under the name Peach State Broadcasting Company and operated on a daytime basis.

A petition for an election for the purpose of annexing their area to the City of Macon was circulated during September by residents

of North Vineville-Ingleside area. This area was one of five selected by members of City Council's expansion program for possible annexation. During October, residents of the section in a heated election voted to come into the city. The election returns showed 707 in favor of annexation while 579 opposed the idea. The annexation of this residential section extended the city's boundaries all the way to Ridge Avenue and Forsyth Road at old Crump's Park, and was hailed as a forward step in the continued growth of this area.

Dr. C. C. Harrold, widely known Macon physician and civic leader, died in a local hospital on September 14th after a short illness. He had been a civic leader since he began his medical practice here in 1904. He was widely known as an expert on the study and treatment of cancer, and organized one of the first cancer clinics in the nation.

The normally placid Ocmulgee River went on a rampage during November and on the 29th of the month set a new flood record as it became a swirling, maddened giant, sweeping downstream with an unequaled fury. The highest flood stage ever recorded here was reached at 11:30 P. M. when the rain swollen river reached 28 feet, blotting out the former high of 26.1 feet set in 1942. Extensive property damage was caused by the flood which inundated all low-lying areas near the city. Traffic over the Southern Railroad between Macon and Atlanta was halted as the swirling waters covered the railroad tracks. Macon's water supply was threatened as the waterworks felt the full brunt of the flood. The Fifth Street bridge was menaced by the great pressure from the swift-moving water and was closed to travel as city engineers dynamited a cut across Main Street in East Macon in an effort to save the bridge. Only the Spring Street bridge remained open to traffic and for a while it too was closed except for emergency travel.

Several other events created unusual interest in the city during the year. One of these was the unsolved murder of a Georgia Power Company bus driver who was found dead shortly after midnight on Good Friday at the wheel of his bus at the intersection of Montpelier and Courtland Avenue. The driver, O. W. Perkins, was coming in after completing his last run of the night. Many suspects were grilled and numerous leads followed, but the slaying is still shrouded in mystery.

Considerable excitement occurred when a young white couple joined the Negro Baptist Church. The couple, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Singletary, resigned their membership in the Tattnall Square Baptist Church, a white institution, and joined Tremont Temple, Negro Baptist, Church. Singletary was a World War II veteran and a student in theology at Mercer at the time. He later figured prominently in the news again by refusing to register for the peace-time draft.

THE END



Biographical Sketches

of

Leading Citizens

of

Macon





WILLIAM NEWMAN AINSWORTH

WILLIAM NEWMAN AINSWORTH

WILLIAM NEWMAN AINSWORTH (1872-1942), D.D.—Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. With his administrative ability, sound judgment and wise counsel, with the commanding physique one usually associates with a leader of men, with his powerful voice and thrilling eloquence that electrified his hearers, and his profound intellectual equipment, he was destined to reach the top and be enrolled among the great leaders and effective ministers of the South.

William Newman Ainsworth was born February 10, 1872, in Camilla, Georgia, where his parents, the Rev. James T. Ainsworth, Methodist minister, and his wife, Katherine L. McCraney of Irwinton, Ga., were living at that time. His early education was obtained from the various schools in the towns where his father was serving as pastor. He attended Emory College at Oxford, Ga., graduating with the A.B. degree. Later, Emory College conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Bishop Ainsworth died July 7, 1942 in Asheville, North Carolina, and is buried in Riverside cemetery, Macon, Ga.

No evaluation of the life and character of Bishop Ainsworth could convey the greatness of the man more fully than does a sketch of him written by Dr. W. F. Quillian for the South Georgia Conference:

". . . Of splendid physique, great brain and warm heart, he was everywhere recognized as a leader of men. In all forward movements that looked toward a stronger church, a better civilization and the promotion of the Kingdom of God to the ends of the earth, he was out in front and never failed to make clear his convictions on the great questions of the day. He was interested in every phase of life and service. As citizen, preacher, prophet, educator and ecclesiastical statesman, he made his highest and best contribution to his day and generation. His record speaks for itself. He accepted with humility, and served with efficiency and distinction, every position to which he was called.

"After graduation from Emory College, young Ainsworth in December, 1891, was admitted to the South Georgia Conference. At the early age of 29, after serving Grace Methodist Church (Macon), Montezuma, Bainbridge and Dublin, he became pastor of historic Mulberry Street Methodist church at Macon. He was twice pastor of Mulberry Street and of Wesley Monumental church in Savannah. Called to the presidency of Wesleyan College at the age of 37, he gave three years (1909-1912) of magnificent leadership to this historic institution, and raised a large endowment fund for the College. During his presidency, the famous Soong sisters of China were students in the college and only eternity will reveal the results of the Christian influence exerted over these young women by Bishop and Mrs. Ainsworth. He was a trustee of Emory and Wesleyan to the day of his death. He was given honorary degrees by Emory and Baylor Universities, and the University of Georgia. While serving his second pastorate in Savannah in 1919, at the General Conference in Atlanta, he was elected a bishop in the former Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His Episcopal duties covered conferences and missions in Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Virginia, Georgia, Cuba, China, Japan and Korea. On account of a serious heart affection, he voluntarily retired from active service in 1938, but continued to do all in his power for the building of the Kingdom and the extension of the cause of Christ.

"His service as a citizen was shown in his effort to overthrow evil of every kind. His eloquent voice was heard not only in the Church, but in the halls of State in an effort to destroy the nefarious liquor traffic and to establish temperance and sobriety among the people. He served for a time as president of the Anti-Saloon League of America. The pulpit was his throne of power. He accepted his commission as a preacher of the Word, and at every opportunity declared with earnestness, precision and force the unsearchable truths of the Gospel. In his ministry he discharged every obligation—guiding the young, visiting the people, and caring for the distressed in their affliction. Throughout his ministry he was recognized as one of the far-seeing statesmen of the Church. He had much to do with the progress and development of Methodism not only in conference and church, but in the wider plans for Ecumenical Methodism around the world. He was a member of the Commission on Union and of the Ecumenical Council of the Methodist Church, and represented his Church in many national and international conferences. His eloquent voice was raised everywhere in behalf of Christian unity and brotherhood.

"There was something royal about Bishop Ainsworth. His conscious power, his mastery of himself, his influence over men, his strong and clear-cut convictions, his courage in defense of right, all impress us with the fact that he was true, loyal and faithful because of his unshakable faith in God, and in his son, Jesus Christ. He has left the influence of a Godly, devoted, courageous personality which will be felt to the end of time. God grant that his fellow ministers and his lay brethren of the Church may be worthy to follow in his tracks!"

On October 11, 1893, William Newman Ainsworth married Mary Nicholson of Attapulgus, Ga., daughter of Dr. Malcolm and Martha Virginia (Smith) Nicholson. Their children are: William N. Ainsworth, Jr., born in 1894 in Montezuma, Ga., and now resides in Atlanta, Ga. (His children are Mary and W. N. Ainsworth III); Malcolm Ainsworth, born in Bainbridge, Ga., in 1896, resides in Athens, Ga. (His only child is Eloise who married R. A. Gray, Jr., resides in Hattiesburg, Miss. Children: R. A. Gray III, and Carol Gray Lyons.) A daughter, Eloise Ainsworth, died in 1920 at the age of 19.

Bishop Ainsworth's widow resides in Macon and takes an active part in all matters relating to Wesleyan College and the Methodist Church.

WILLIAM THOMAS ANDERSON

William Thomas Anderson, newspaper owner, president, editor, publisher and civic leader of Macon, Georgia was born in Hayneville, Houston County, Georgia, August 21, 1871.

He is the son of Christopher Cowen Anderson, born January 7, 1843 and Laura Imogene Tooke Anderson, born August 26, 1844. They were married December 13, 1865 on the plantation estate of her parents Joseph Tooke and Mary Jane Johnston, Joseph Tooke being one of the first millionaires of Georgia, his plantation located at Hayneville, Houston County, Georgia.



Christopher Cowen Anderson was attending Penfield (Mercer University) when the war between the states occurred. He left Senior class and enlisted in Company I, Sixth Georgia Regiment, General Colquitt's Brigade. At the close of the war he returned to Penfield and received his A.M. degree. His life professions were that of teacher, civil engineer, State Geologist, studied law to plead his own civil case and won it, Bibb County Surveyor with office at Bibb County Courthouse at the time of his death August 6, 1925. His parents are Thomas William Emanuel Anderson, who for service in the Indian War of 1812-14 received two lots forty acres each gold bearing lands near Jeffersonville, Twiggs County, Georgia. His inheritance from two wealthy aunts (French Huguenots) made of him one of the largest planters in Twiggs County, Georgia, the Anderson estate located near the old Richland Baptist church. His first wife was Catherine Johnson whose father was President of the Senate of South Carolina in 1812 (she is the grandmother of Mrs. William Thomas Anderson). His second wife was Susan Frances Roach (widow of Charles Carden) when she married Thomas William Emanuel Anderson (she is the grandmother of William Thomas Anderson). He is buried at old Richland Baptist Church between his two wives, in Twiggs County, Georgia.

The parents of Susan Frances Roach are James Roach and Elizabeth Gatling, the Roach family in North Carolina dates back to 1736 and both have Revolutionary records.

The Andersons are descended from Thomas Anderson of Virginia, who came from Northumberland, England on the border of Scotland, settled in Gloucester County. The coat-of-arms "Nil desperandum auspice Dei" (Never despair under Divine Guidance), was granted by Edward the Sixth. The Tooke name is of the estate of Godlinton in Kent, as early as the reign of Edward Fourth and before that in Nottinghamshire, England. There are two arms, one ancient and the other granted in reign of Henry Seventh. All the same line, Charles Chevall Tooke bore original arms, this line descended from William Tooke. Coat-of-arms motto: "Militia Mea Multiplex" (My warfare is manifold).

William Thomas Anderson's education was in private schools in Hayneville and Hawkinsville, Georgia and contacts with Hawkinsville Dispatch and The Macon Telegraph. His thirst for knowledge and reading good literature was inherited. In 1935 Mercer University conferred an honorary degree (LL.D.) in recognition of his service to Macon and to Georgia.

June 22, 1898 he married Elizabeth Griswold Anderson, daughter of Ada Frances Hardeman and William Francis Anderson, brick manufacturer of Macon, Georgia, at their home in Vineville, and after this marriage they lived in Shirley Hills. She was a member of the First Presbyterian church, Mary Hammond Washington Chapter DAR, Georgia Society Colonial Dames of America and United Daughters of the Confederacy. Her grandmother, Hardeman, having made first Confederate flag unfurled before Floyd Rifles in Macon, March 5, 1861. She died October 4, 1945.

There were no children and the Will of William Thomas Anderson provides for his brothers and sisters, Eugene Anderson, Mrs. Lela Anderson Key, Peyton Tooke Anderson (deceased), Mrs. Marie Anderson Gibson, Mrs. Alma Anderson Massey, Mrs. Julia Anderson Northrop, Mrs. Myrta Anderson Massey, and two half-sisters and their mother by the second marriage of Christopher Cowen Anderson to Elizabeth Burkett Anderson, August 19, 1907, Mrs. Louise Anderson Blount and Mrs. Catherine Anderson Acker, also two faithful servants Foster Johnson and Mary Ford. The residue of his estate will be used for hospital for Negroes.

Peyton Anderson, son of Peyton Tooke Anderson and Nell Brown Griswold Anderson is the last male descendant of this Anderson line. He is publisher of The Macon Telegraph.

The family with few exceptions have been active in development of educational, cultural and civic affairs of Macon. Most of them are Episcopalians as were their forebears.

1882 William Thomas Anderson began work with Hawkinsville Dispatch, eleven years of age.

1888 began work with The Macon Telegraph age seventeen. Was President, Macon Typographical Union, three years in succession, Chairman of Laws Committee of International Typographical Union, and at St. Louis Convention of this organization Socialist Congressman, Victor Berger of Wisconsin, offered resolution that no member of the union should belong to a military company. William Thomas Anderson precipitated himself and his organization into National attention, by making a patriotic speech which squelched the resolution, and placed the International Union squarely on record for loyalty to the Government and observance of law and order, and committing union men to offering themselves to this end whenever necessary. He contrasted himself with a rebel southerner, being called upon to defend his country's flag against the insidious proposals of the loyalist and brought the delegates to their feet in wild enthusiasm, when pointing to the United States flags, decorating the hall, closed with the quotation: "Breathes there the man with soul so dead, who never to himself hath said, 'This is my own, my native land'." Both he and his wife were proud of his loyalty and membership in this Union.

1908 he was elected member of Board Bibb County Education, 37 years of age. 1909 he borrowed $5000 to buy stock in The Macon Telegraph. 1914 he became owner, editor and publisher, The Macon Telegraph. 1914 he was appointed by Governor of Georgia as one of the Georgia Commissioners, Dixie Highway Assoication. 1916 attracted to the idea of Ham and Egg Show, Fort Valley School, sponsored by Otis O'Neal one of the south's outstanding Negro citizens, he advertised the work through the press, with prizes offered for achievements and with financial aid and influence combined with that of other prominent leaders, this show has grown to be one of the best agricultural expositions in the South. 1924 he was named member of Georgia State Highway Board. 1924-26 he was appointed Colonel on the Staff of Governor Lamartine G. Hardman (q.v.).

1926-28 he was Vice-President of Federal Housing Authority in Macon, President of the Sixth District Agricultural and Mechanical School of Barnesville, Georgia, and Trustee of Herty Foundation.

1930 he was President of Macon Rotary Club. Bought Macon Evening News, thereby taking over all newspapers in Macon. 1933 he was Chairman of Georgia Hall Committee for Warm Springs Foundation and helped raise $100,000 for construction of the foundation as a tribute to President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

1935 he financed and started Macon State Market.

1938 interested in the welfare of farmers of Georgia, he advocated through his newspapers, soil conservation, crop diversification and better livestock. 1938 he sponsored a publicity program for Georgia Banner Hams, and founded The Georgia Banner Ham Association, a farmer's cooperative. 1938 as Chairman of Water Commissioners of Council, he had city to issue million dollar bonds and bought Macon Water Works. 1938 was President of Macon Horse Show Association. He was also President of Idle Hour Country Club, Rotary Club, member of Elks, Knights of Pythias, Macon Executive Club, Macon Riding Clubs.

In November, 1939, about four hundred Georgians attended an Appreciation Dinner at Hotel Dempsey, Macon, Georgia, honoring William Thomas Anderson, scores of others sent felicitations by wire and mail to him. Mr. O. A. B. Sparks, Macon attorney, acted toastmaster, and he was presented with a silver punch bowl with twelve cups and one large silver cup was engraved and presented by his Negro admirers that they might show appreciation of his efforts to help them. This silver will be an Anderson heirloom.

William Thomas Anderson died on November 23, 1945. He is buried by his wife in Anderson lot Rose Hill Cemetery.



CHARLES J. BAYNE

CHARLES J. BAYNE

CHARLES J. BAYNE, the "Grand Old Man" of Georgia journalism, so called by some of his friends of the press, was born September 28, 1870 in Milledgeville, Georgia. He was the son of Charles Thomas and Saphronia Smith Bayne. Saphronia Smith was the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Draper Smith of Washington County. The Reverend Mr. Smith was a distinguished Methodist minister. The mother of Mr. Bayne, Saphronia Smith, attended Miss Clark's private school in Sandersville, Georgia. She read extensively and had an unusual memory. Shortly before her death, at the age of ninety-six, she quoted without flaw to her son, Charles, Bryant's Thanatopsis which had been taught her by her mother when she was a little girl. It was John Temple Graves, with whose father Mr. Bayne served as associate editor on The Georgian in Atlanta for awhile who said, "Mr. Bayne's long life as newspaperman, lecturer, poet and traveler has had the south for much of its physical scene, with interludes in Washington and Europe but the spiritual atmosphere of his journey has belonged to no region nor any ideology." He is one of the nation's first columnists and has survived the years. His editorials are considered vigorous, colorful and full of knowledge.

Mr. Bayne is descended from the Bayne family of Westmoreland County, Virginia. His great-grandfather, John Bayne came to Warren County from Virginia about 1790 later moving to Jones County. He was a teacher and legislator, serving as Representative from Jones County in the old state capitol in Milledgeville for fifteen years. His son, John, the grandfather of our subject married Nancy Brookings whose father was Mayor of Milledgeville. Their son, Charles Thomas, graduated with first honor in 1860 from Oglethorpe University located at that time at Midway, Georgia. He shared first honor with Sidney Lanier. Charles Thomas Bayne conducted a private school in Milledgeville, his subjects being the classical languages and higher mathematics. He was able to translate Latin into Greek or Greek into Latin extemporaneously. Among his pupils was the brother of William Gibbs McAdoo whose parents were refugees during the War Between the States living in Milledgeville for a time.

The home of Charles Bayne was one of those caught in the maelstrom following the War for Southern Independence. His father died at the age of thirty-one making it necessary for him to return with his mother to the home of her foster parents in Sandersville, Georgia. Her parents had died in her early youth.

Charles Bayne attended the public schools of Sandersville for two years. Such was his desire for knowledge that by private study he was able to teach at an early age. He chose to broaden his knowledge by travel abroad. At the age of eighteen, his tour took him through France, Switzerland, over the Alps on foot by the Simplon Pass, and as far as Naples, returning by way of Belgium and Holland. He learned foreign languages, sought out the art treasures and saw strange and wondrous sights.

His first connection with a daily newspaper was as editorial writer on The Augusta Georgia Chronicle. In 1893 he was sent to Washington to cover the special silver session of Congress in Cleveland's second administration. This was the first of several periods of residence in the national capitol covering approximately twenty-five years. Later Mr. Bayne became editor of The Augusta Herald newspaper. In the capacity of lecturer, without relinquishing his newspaper work, he toured the United States with his lectures Drones and Dreamers and The Things We Might Have Said. Back in Washington, at the turn of the century, he was editorial writer on the Washington Times. This was followed by a winter in New York, where he contributed to The New York Evening Post. While in New York he was sent to the London office by the New York press.

He returned to Georgia and joined the staff of The Atlanta News and later The Georgian. In 1909 Mr. Bayne was editorial writer on the Baltimore News, going to the Washington Times a short time later. In March 1917 Charles Bayne joined the staff of the Macon, Georgia News serving as editor for several years and later became editorial writer on The Telegraph, a position he now holds.

He has published two volumes of verses and one of fiction in 1888. "The Water Spirit's Bride" was published. In the same year he wrote "The Fall of Utopia". He has also published "Perdita", a collection of his verses and more recently, "The Coming of the Crow's Feet."

Charles Bayne married Mary Hawkins, daughter of Joseph Carter and Mary Garrard Hawkins of Putnam County in 1919. She has been of immeasurable worth to him in his later works.

Two contemporaries, cousins of our subject have taken high places in legal circles. Howard Randolph Bayne remained for a number of years in his native state of Virginia. He practiced law in Richmond in the firm of Bayne and Cabell. He is the author of several monographs among them The Year 1619—The Colony of Virginia, The Settlement of Jamestown, The Application of the Monroe Doctrine and was editor of Converses' Indexes Virginia and West Virginia Law. He moved to New York where he practiced law and was a member of The Society of Colonial Wars; Sons of Revolution; Virginia Historical Society; was twice governor of the Virginians and president for years of Staten Island Association of Arts and Sciences. Another cousin, Hugh Aiken Bayne, whose father was first honor graduate of Yale in class of 1848 and prominent lawyer of New Orleans, practiced law in New York in the early 1900's as a member of the law firm of Strong and Cadwalater and attained international recognition. He served on Pershing's staff as Lt. Colonel during the First World War and on the Reparation Committee in Paris for eight years following the war.

Mr. Bayne's library is indicative of his varied tastes and interests. His library includes a half dozen printings of all of Shakespeare's works; the complete works of the English poets; the best of the French; the Greek and Latin classics. There are many books of Philosophy and Histories, his favorite History being John W. Drajer's History of the Intellectual Development of Europe. His Biblical Library contains besides the modern versions, others in Greek. Hebrew and Italian. He speaks six languages and perhaps is the only man in Georgia who reads Arabic.

His garden of rare plants bespeaks his knowledge of flowers and trees and the love of their beauty.

And so with Ralph McGill we say, "Charles Bayne has kept on savoring books, poetry, friends, laughter, knowledge, sunsets, flowers and dreams."



NICHOLAS MARO BLOCK

NICHOLAS MARO BLOCK

Nicholas Maro Block, born in Americus, Georgia, September 4, 1862, son of Joseph Block and Mina Shuman, who moved to Macon, Georgia in 1864. After completing his education through grammar school in Macon, he became one of the early settlers in this growing community and his keen foresight saw the possibilities of a town to become one of the leading cities in the State and decided to settle here permanently.

Mr. Block died September 4, 1938, and at the time of his death he was president of the Hotel Dempsey. He was also in many different other businesses in Macon, being a pioneer in the manufacturing of ice in the City of Macon and president of the Central City Ice Manufacturing Company which had ice plants in Athens, Georgia, Dublin, Georgia, Jacksonville, Florida and Macon, Georgia. He was also president at one time of the Dublin Telephone Company which he sold to the Southern Bell. He had also sold his interest in his ice plants, at this time, to the Atlantic Ice and Coal Corporation.

Mr. Block's interests carried him to various other fields of industry and business. He was vice-president of the Continental Trust Company of Macon, Georgia and at one time was director of the Fourth National Bank, vice-president of the Acme Brewing Company and president of the National Milling Company and Massee & Felton Lumber Company, which was one of the largest hardwood lumber mills in the United States.

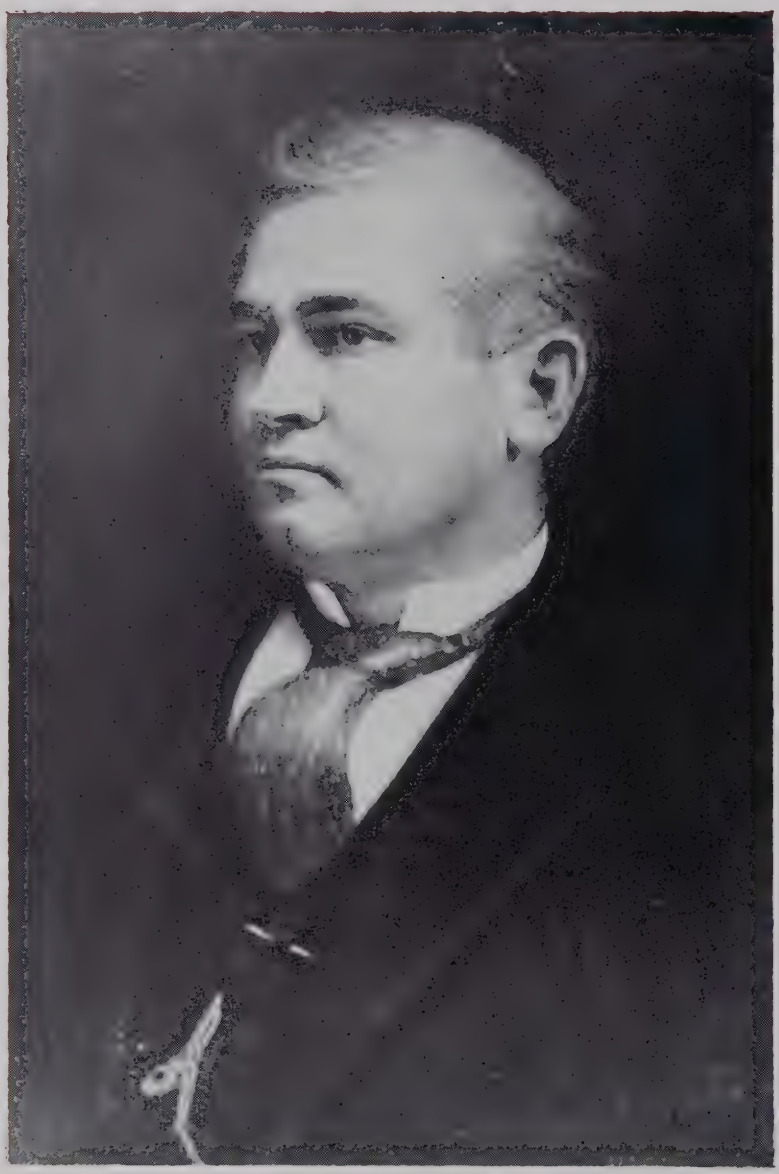
Mr. Block was from a large family—six brothers and two sisters, all deceased. They, like Mr. Block, were quite successful in business. He married Hattie Marks of Cincinnati, Ohio, born August 22, 1870, died October 10, 1941. To this union were born three children, Hazel (Block) Citrone, April 16, 1891, Herbert Maro Block, June 20, 1893, and Earle Henry Block, June 17, 1897.

Herbert (Buddy) Block and Earle Henry Block have successfully operated the Hotel Dempsey and other interests of the Nicholas Block estate. The two sons enlisted in the first world war, Herbert Block in the Air Force, U. S. Navy and Earle Henry Block in the U. S. 17th Engineers Regular Army.

Mr. Block's grandchildren are Nick Maro Block, born September 20, 1926, who was in the second world war in the U. S. Navy Air Force, and Herbert Maro Block, Jr., born September 19, 1934, sons of Herbert Maro Block.

During Mr. Block's early days in Macon, he and his wife were very popular, attending most of the social affairs and entertaining extensively in their home, which was always open to their many friends.

Mr. Block was a member of the Macon Masonic Lodge No. 5, Idle Hour Country Club and was affiliated with Beth Israel Temple. He was most charitable in charities that he considered worthy, and always believing "That a friend in need is a friend indeed". That was his motto.



JAMES HENDERSON BLOUNT

JAMES HENDERSON BLOUNT

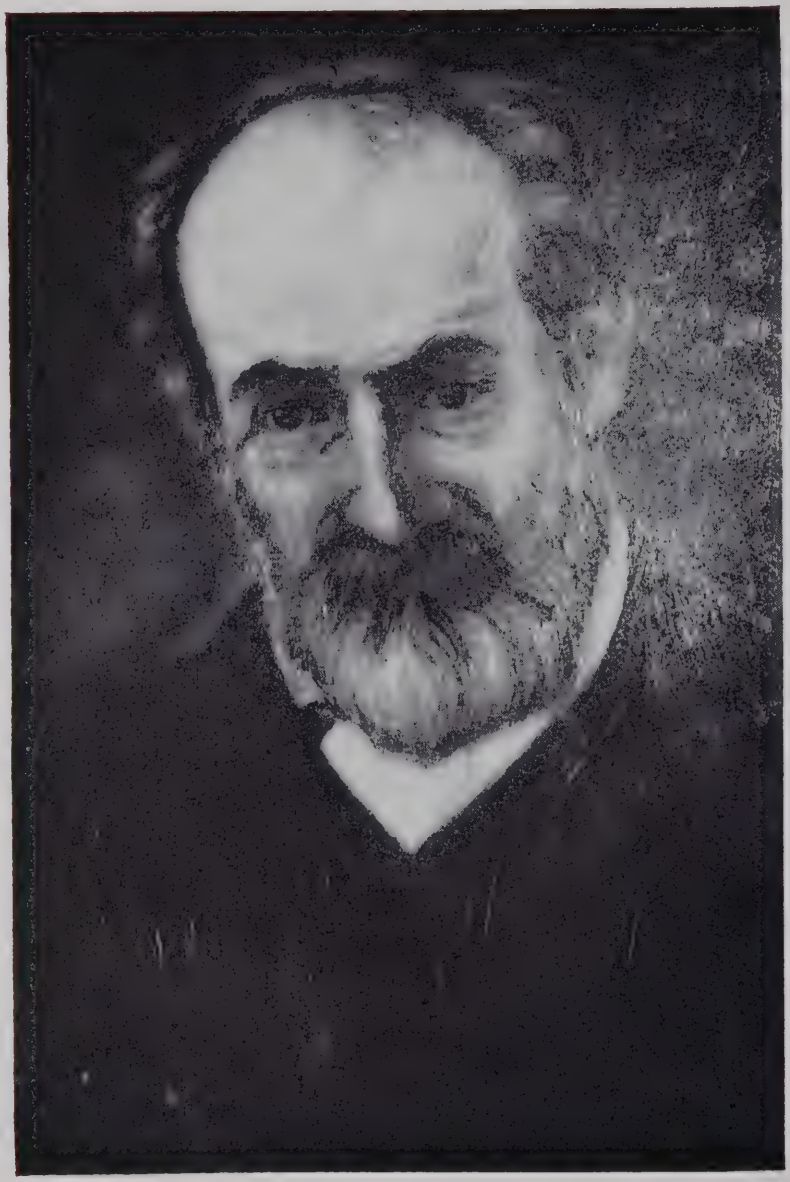
James Henderson Blount (1837-1903)—statesman, soldier, patriot. A man that put patriotism above party; a true American. When Mr. Blount voluntarily retired from Congress after twenty years of continuous service, his colleagues in the House, both Republicans and Democrats, paid glowing tributes to the splendid career of "the gentleman from Georgia". Among the many given to his prudence and his admirable judgment, one speaker said: "I am certain I speak the general sentiment of the House when I say that the retirement of the gentleman from Georgia from the high position he has so long held as a legislator in the Congress of the United States takes from this body one of the most able, careful, laborious and upright gentlemen who has figured in the affairs of our government during the past twenty years." Another paid tribute to the perfection of appropriation bills submitted by him: "The House has become accustomed to pass bills reported by him without controversy."

Born September 12, 1837, on the Blount Estate place near Clinton, Jones County, James H. Blount was a son of Thomas Blount and Mary Ricketts, formerly of North Carolina. Thomas Blount was well educated, and a man of rigid principles. Children of Thomas and Mary (Ricketts) Blount were: David Emanuel, Joseph Gray, Virginia (Mrs. Rudolph of Alabama), James Henderson, Mary (Mrs. Thomas A. Bowen of Jones County). James H. Blount was educated in private schools, and prepared for college at Roswell, Ga., under Dr. Pratt. He was graduated from the University of Georgia in 1857. Returning to Clinton, he read law under Judge Robert V. Hardeman. He had begun the practice of law when he enlisted as a private in the Floyd Rifles, of which Thomas Hardeman, Jr., of Macon, was captain. Capt. Hardeman went to Fort Norfolk, Va., where the Floyd Rifles and Macon Volunteers from Macon and two other companies from Georgia were organized into the Second Battalion, Ga. Inf., C.S.A., with Capt. Hardeman as Major. James H. Blount was wounded at the Battle of Seven Pines and was invalided home. While recuperating he recruited "Blount's Battalion" of Cavalry, Third Ga. Volunteers, C.S.A., and was commissioned Lieut. Colonel. He surrendered in Macon in April, 1865. After the war, Colonel Blount continued the practice of law in Clinton. In 1865 he was a delegate to the Georgia Constitutional Convention from Jones County.

Some years after the War Between the States, Colonel Blount brought his family to Macon, where he formed a law partnership with Col. Isaac Hardeman (q.v.). He was also associated with Judge Thomas J. Simmons in the practice of law. He continued to add large tracts of land in Jones County to his inheritance from his father. In 1872 Col. Blount was elected to Congress where he served twenty years (March 4, 1873-March 3, 1893). Mr. Blount's qualities of devotion to the responsibilities set before him, his courage and fairness together with an incisive study of public questions, his fearless attacks throughout his public service upon whatever was not innately honorable for the Nation, gave him chairmanships of great trust and power, among them: Post Offices and Post Roads, Ways and Means, Naval Affairs, Appropriations and Foreign Affairs.

In March, 1893, he retired from political life. Immediately upon his return to Macon he was requested by President Cleveland to go at once as Commissioner Paramount to the Hawaiian Islands (formerly Sandwich Islands) to investigate the reported revolution and annexation scandal. His services as chairman of Foreign Affairs, his courage, his good judgment and absolute devotion to duty served to recommend him for this delicate and diplomatic mission. Among the army of reporters who met the Commissioner Paramount when about to sail with Mrs. Blount for Hawaii, one of them wired his paper back East, "Compared with Commissioner Blount, the Sphinx is a chatterbox". He was later appointed U. S. Minister to succeed John L. Stevens (Republican). His official report is of record in Washington.

On April 22, 1861, James H. Blount married Eugenia Wiley of Macon (born Jan. 19, 1843, in Macon, died Jan. 5, 1936), daughter of Dr. Jack Barnett Wiley (1803-1861) and Ann Gunn (Clopton) Wiley (1816-1891) who were married in Macon on Feb. 18, 1836. Their children were Joseph Gray (d. 1914, married Mrs. Bowie Griffith Dorsey of Baltimore); James H. Jr. (d. 1918, married Sallie B. Comer of Birmingham, Ala.; was Major U. S. Volunteers in the Philippine Islands, 1899-1901; Judge of the First Instance, Philippine Islands, 1901-1905; author of "The American Occupation of the Philippines, 1898-1912", and "Georgia Forms and Practices", et al; frequent contributor to leading magazines, and wrote and spoke several languages; buried in Rose Hill, Macon); Eugenia Dorothy (Mrs. Walter D. Lamar of Macon, q.v.); Frances resides in Macon; and Ann, Mary and David who died in infancy.



JOHN JOINER BRANTLY

JOHN JOINER BRANTLY

John Joiner Brantly (1821-1902), D.D., LL.D., Professor of Belles Lettres, Mercer University. A man not only deep of piety but of ripe scholarship; a man of rare culture and refinement, with a gift of expression equaled by few, whether in the pulpit, in the class room, or in his writings. He served as professor of Belles-Lettres in Mercer University for four years at Penfield, Greene County, and was one of the four professors coming to Macon on the removal of Mercer from Penfield in 1871. Here he taught for twenty-two years, retiring in July, 1893. Knowledge cannot be inherited, but the capacity for it can. John J. Brantly's father, William Theophilus Brantly (born 1787) was a man of scholarly attainments with a brilliant mind. He was graduated from the University of South Carolina in 1808, served the Richmond Academy at Augusta (Ga.) as rector, 1809-11, was pastor of the Baptist Church at Beaufort, S. C., 1811-1819, returned to Augusta in 1819 as rector of the Academy, and gave his service without charge to the weak church, which he built up to a strong membership and was instrumental in having a fine church edifice built.

W. T. Brantly's first wife was a McDonald; after her death he married again, and John J. Brantly was born in 1821 in Augusta. In 1826 W. T. Brantly accepted a call to Philadelphia. No minister of his time was more cultured and learned than he. While in Georgia he had helped organize the Georgia Baptist Convention in 1822 and wrote the Constitution; and in Philadelphia he edited the *Columbian Star* (1827-33), later changing the name to *The Christian Index*. A contemporary said of him: "His mind was strikingly elevated and even majestic." Another said: "The peculiar characteristic of his mind was grandeur." Samuel Boykin who later edited *The Christian Index* wrote of him: "As a scholar his attainments were profound and varied. He was a born orator. At times he spoke with a rapidity and power almost overwhelming."

Going to Philadelphia at the age of five with his cultured parents, John J. Brantly's earliest school was of the very best, while he was unconsciously absorbing an interest in the highest and best in life which his home-life afforded. Leaving Philadelphia for Charleston, S. C., noted as the cultural center of the South, he had outstanding advantages in furthering his education at the College of Charleston where his father was a member of the faculty.

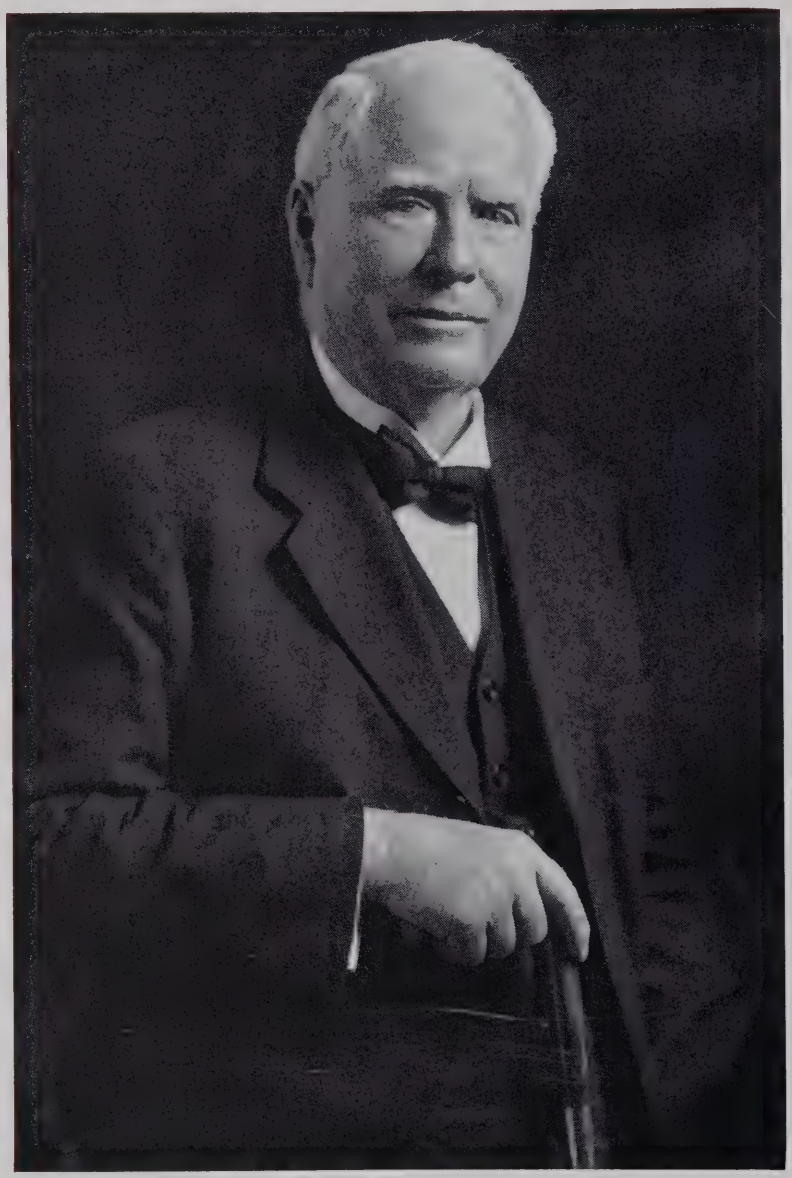
While serving a pastorate at Fayetteville, North Carolina, John J. Brantly married Della Smith, around 1850. From there they went to Newberry, S. C., and he was preaching and teaching there when he was elected professor of Belles Lettres in 1866 at Mercer University at Penfield, succeeding Dr. H. H. Tucker, who became President of Mercer.

For four years at Mercer in old Penfield, Professor Brantly trained the minds of the students—most of them having recently returned from the Confederate Army—along paths of appreciation of the best in literature while, by example, teaching the reciprocal relation of religion and education. He served the Baptist Church at Penfield as pastor the entire four years. His wife, too, took an active part in the college life, training the glee club and directing the church choir. His three young sons received their early schooling in the atmosphere of the college. John J. Brantly "became the richest mental and spiritual heritage of hundreds of students who were under his instruction".

In 1871, with the suspension of classes at Penfield, and while the college was making preparation on the new campus in Macon for a continuation of its scholastic life, the faculty: Professors Sanford, Willet, Brantly and Woodfin, and the President, Dr. H. H. Tucker, taught a semi-private school in the business part of the city. For twenty-two years Dr. Brantly's splendid example and influence were felt at Mercer and in Macon. Here his three sons grew up and were graduated at Mercer; John Joiner Brantly, Jr., A.B. degree in 1871; Belton Nance Brantly, A.B. degree in June, 1877; and Thomas Scott Brantly, B.S. degree in June 1878. Dr. Brantly's grandchildren were: Custus Brantly (died 1915), Kate Brantly (Mrs. Joseph Curry, Washington, D. C.), Della Brantly (Mrs. Sydney Bronson, Macon, Ga.), Nell Brantly (Mrs. Frank M. Glover, Wilmington, N. C.), Grace Brantly (Mrs. Herbert Respess, Macon, Ga.), Jack Brantly (died 1945), children of John J. Brantly, Jr.; children of Thomas Scott and Mary (Clayton) Brantly: Edgar Clayton Brantly (d. 1946) and John Edward, President of Drilling and Exploration Co., Inc., Dallas, Texas.

One of Dr. Brantly's "boys", a graduate of the class of 1893, in an appreciation of him summed up the depth of affection and admiration in which he was held by every student who was privileged to attend his classes, as follows:

"OLD DOC"—that caption is not a discourteous epithet, but an appellation spoken by students with affection for Dr. John J. Brantly, conceded the best loved and most learned member of the faculty of Mercer University during that period terminating in what has been described as the Gay Nineties. Dr. Brantly was professor of Belles Lettres, and was familiar, not alone with English, but with the choice and beautiful literature of other tongues. His favorite dramatist was Shakespeare. When we boys did not know our lesson we would eulogize his tenacious memory and request him to recite Hamlet or Lear or Macbeth, which he could do without referring to the text. His mind had so absorbed literature, both sacred and secular, that it was his spiritual and intellectual sustenance. The classics were part of him. He thought in terms of the beautiful as revealed by phrases. To him Browning was as a sunrise out of the dawn; Tennyson was a symphony, and Isaiah as an oratorio. To Dr. Brantly words were fragrant things like jasmine, were what the brush was to Leonardo, what notes were to Verdi. This little man, frail of body, was robust of mind, and the master of diction. When he spoke his voice was deep like the viol, and the air became charged with eloquence. Houses and lands were not his possession; silver and gold had he none; yet a richer man never contributed to Mercer University."



RICHARD FERDILLIUS BURDEN

RICHARD FERDILLIUS BURDEN

Richard Ferdillius Burden (1851-1937)—Merchant (retail dry goods). His motto in life was "His delight was in the law of the Lord, and in his law doth he meditate day and night." (Psalms I, verse 2). He was a gentleman of the old school, courteous, affable, kindly, considerate of others,—one in whose everyday life were exemplified Christian teachings. In fact, his religion was the dominant factor in his life. In business he was far-sighted and aggressive. His business motto was: "Decide what is right to do, and do it."

On the death of his father in 1867 this orphan boy of sixteen years came to Macon and began his business career with the Freeman Transfer Company. As was the case with most boys in Georgia born in the 1860's, he had no means of obtaining a college education immediately after the war. His early schooling was obtained at the Cross Roads Academy in Jones County and from his parents. However, he was well-grounded in the fundamentals as his later career showed.

In 1869 he was engaged as clerk in the Treasurer's office of the Central of Georgia Railway. A year later he entered the office of his brother's former partner, Samuel Taylor Coleman, who conducted a retail as well as a wholesale dry goods business. Time has shown that buying and selling was the most lucrative business left open after the ravages of war, while those following the professions were struggling for a livelihood.

For sixteen years Richard Burden applied himself assiduously to his work, learning details of the various departments; and his diligent application was rewarded when he was made general manager of the retail department in 1886. Two years later he purchased an interest in the business, and in 1893 the firm was incorporated as Burden, Smith and Ellis, Peyton Smith and John R. Ellis having become associated with this retail dry goods firm. The name was later changed to Burden Smith & Company. Mr. Burden was the first president and remained so until his death in 1937. The firm still operates under this name, also called *The Empire Store,* and today is one of the leading home-owned and home-operated mercantile establishments in Georgia. Mr. Burden's son, Eugene Bass Burden, and a grandson, Richard Burden Domingos, are associated with it.

Although never seeking political office, Mr. Burden always felt that he owed a part of his life to the upbuilding of his city. He was a member of the Macon Hospital Association and on the executive committee, and helped promote the Macon City Auditorium and Hotel Dempsey, to all of which he contributed liberally. He was active in bond drives in World War I. He was a member of Macon Lodge No. 5, F. & A. M.

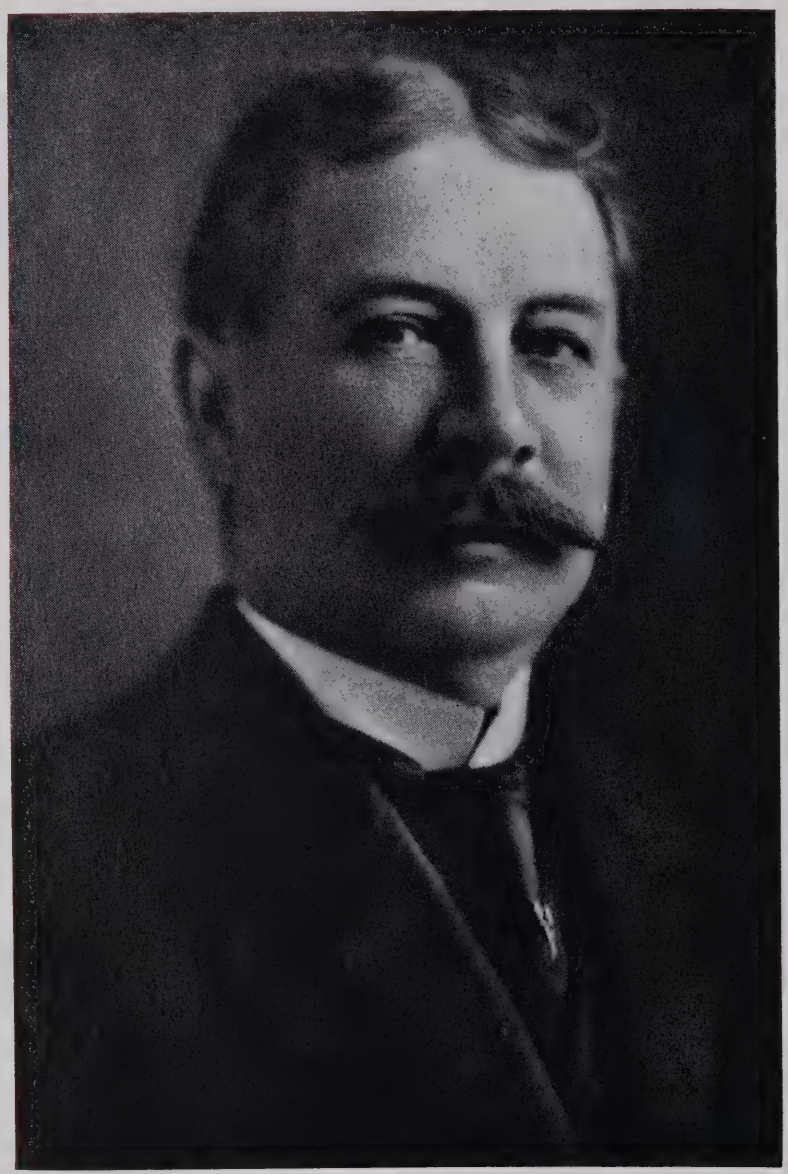
Mr. Burden was a member of Mulberry Street Methodist Church until his removal to Vineville when he and his family became affiliated with the Vineville Church, which he served for 41 years as teacher and leading layman, and for 39 years as chairman of the Board of Stewards. He was noted for his extension work, being instrumental in organizing the East Macon Methodist Church, Jones Chapel (now Second Street Methodist) and Centenary Methodist.

Every religious movement in the city engaged his interest and financial backing. He was one of the organizers and first president of the Macon Business Men's Evangelistic Club; was on the building committee, and for 21 years chairman of the Board of the South Georgia Conference Orphans' Home; and, because of his strong advocacy of temperance, was an honorary member of the W.C.T.U. Since 1896 he was interested in the Holiness Camp Meeting near Indian Springs, and this became one of his leading religious interests in his later years. He contributed generously and continuously to the support of the movement and served for many years as president. He was also identified with the Young Men's Christian Association and juvenile reformatory work in the state, and was on the Board of Trustees of the Wesley Memorial Enterprises in Atlanta, Georgia.

Richard F. Burden, born September 11, 1851, in Burden District, Jones County, was the youngest of seven children of Thomas Liles Burden (born Jan. 25, 1809, in Newberry District, South Carolina; died Jan. 28, 1867, buried in Burden Cemetery, near James, in Jones County) and Sarah (Barfield) Burden. His mother was born in Jones County, November 12, 1810, and was married on February 6, 1834. She died in Jones County on May 4, 1864. She was the daughter of Richard and Sarah (MacIlvail) Barfield, and granddaughter of Solomon Barfield.

Richard F. Burden had three brothers in the Confederate Army: William H. and Chapman, in the 45th Ga. Regiment, and Thomas J., in the 5th Ga. Battalion. A sister, Nancy Ann, married, first, Mr. James; her second marriage was to John Jarrell, in Jones County, on December 25, 1864. His paternal grandparents were William Burden (born in Newberry District, S. C., died in Twiggs County, Ga., Oct. 6, 1820) and Drucilla Liles, daughter of Sherod Liles.

On September 9, 1880, Richard Ferdillius Burden married Amelia Maria (Minnie) Bass, daughter of Dr. William Capers and Ann Octavia (Nickelson) Bass. They were married in the Adelphian Society parlor of Wesleyan College, Macon, where Dr. Bass served as professor for 15 years, and as president for 20 years. Their three children were born and reared in Macon. They are: Eugene Bass Burden (who married Jane Symmons of Brunswick, Ga.), Ann Octavia (Mrs. Thomas J. Stewart), and Alice Cobb (Mrs. Isaac LeRoy Domingos). The grandchildren are: I. L. Domingos, Jr., Ann Maria Domingos, Alice Burden Domingos and Richard Burden Domingos. They all reside in Macon.



THOMAS CHARLES BURKE

THOMAS CHARLES BURKE

Thomas Charles Burke (1856-1917) was modest and retiring, yet of such sound judgment that his advice was constantly sought in connection with various corporate enterprises, many of which he served as a director. He was particularly considerate of and understanding with younger men starting out in business. "Tom" Burke made an enviable place for himself in the business and social world, inheriting his father's keen wit and happy disposition as well as his business acumen.

Born in New York City on February 27, 1856, son of Christopher and Catherine (Sheil) Burke, Tom Burke, at the age of four years, moved with his parents to Macon. His father, Christopher Burke, was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1817, came to America in 1837 and settled in New York City where he married Catherine Sheil, also born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1826. In 1860, after a stay of twenty-three years in New York, Christopher Burke brought his family to Macon. During the War Between the States, Christopher Burke took charge of the paint shop of the Macon & Western Railroad (now the Central of Georgia), where a company was formed called the M.W.R.R. Guards, Confederate States of America. After Major Gen. Wilson occupied Macon in April, 1865, Christopher Burke received his parole, which was signed on June 3, 1865.

In 1874, Christopher Burke established the firm of C. Burke & Son, dealers in paints and oils. He took an active part in civic affairs, serving as a county commissioner of Bibb County and as an Alderman of the City of Macon. Being an ardent Roman Catholic, he was active in the establishment of Pio Nono College (later St. Stanislaus), a Jesuit school founded in 1874, and of Mount de Sales Academy, founded in 1876 by the Sisters of Mercy. His daughter, Margaret, entered Mount de Sales as Sister Legouri; and a son, Christopher, who became a priest, died in New Orleans.

As junior partner in his father's firm, and after the death of his father in 1884, Thomas C. Burke carried on the extensive business of wholesale builders' supplies. He never took any part in politics but was keenly interested in Macon's business and civic life. He was one of the promoters of Macon's first real theatre, The Academy of Music; was a director of the Georgia, Southern & Florida Railroad Co., a director of the Union Savings Bank, president of the Progress Loan & Improvement Company, president of St. Joseph's Benevolent Society (organized in 1872), member of the Municipal Bond Commission, and was Fire Commissioner. He was business adviser to Mt. de Sales Academy. President Taft appointed him to act as chairman of this Red Cross District in times of disaster.

With Tom Burke his church interests were paramount. He contributed generously to the erection of St. Joseph's Catholic Church on its present location, corner of Poplar and New Streets, begun in 1888 under the direction of a building committee, of which Mr. Burke was general manager. Throughout his life he was a liberal supporter of the church.

On December 17, 1885, Thomas Charles Burke married Mary S. Bessman, daughter of John W. and Eliza (Sinnott) Bessman, of Augusta, Ga. John W. Bessman studied at Heidelberg, Germany, later coming to Charleston, S. C., and from there to Augusta, where Mary S. was born in 1867. She died in Macon in 1938.

Tom Burke was a member of the Thalian Dancing Club in Macon; and after his marriage in December, 1885, the club gave a German in honor of the bride and groom at the new armory of the Macon Volunteers. Mr. and Mrs. Burke were members of the Cut Glass Euchre Club, an exclusive card club of the "Gay Nineties", and of the Log Cabin Country Club.

For over thirty years prior to his death on March 2, 1917, Thomas C. Burke was one of the leading business men of Macon. Due to his ability and integrity, he built up a very valuable estate, a large portion of which was in centrally-located business property. In his death the City of Macon lost a very fine, valuable and constructive citizen.

Mr. and Mrs. Burke had two children, Mary Henrietta and Martina L., who still reside in the home built by their father in 1889.



SAMUEL TAYLOR COLEMAN II

SAMUEL TAYLOR COLEMAN II

Samuel Taylor Coleman II was born in Macon, Georgia, on June 10, 1873, the son of Samuel Taylor Coleman I (July 1836-May 26, 1889) a prominent business man of Macon, whose father, Robert Coleman, was one of Macon's early bankers, and Alberta Aurelia (Hilsman) Coleman (Sept. 28, 1844-Aug. 29, 1921), daughter of Dr. Josiah Hilsman of Crawford County. Besides S. T. Coleman II, their children are: Alberta Coleman (Mrs. Frank Hawkins, Atlanta), Mary Josephine Coleman (Mrs. James S. Budd, deceased), Katherine Benton Coleman (Mrs. Alfred R. Willingham, Macon), Everette Harvey Coleman (deceased), Gray Hilsman, Macon.

Samuel Taylor Coleman I, as a child, lived in the present Sanford Birdsey home in Vineville, moving to the Sidney Lanier Cottage on High Street shortly after his marriage, where S. T. Coleman II was born. In 1879 the Colemans bought the Jerry Cowles-Bond mansion atop Coleman's Hill, where S. T. Coleman II continued to live until his marriage. The Coleman family also owned and maintained a summer home on the present site of Wesleyan College in Rivoli.

As a boy, Mr. Coleman attended the local grammar school and was graduated from the Boy's High School of Macon on June 13, 1889. Later he attended Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia.

Immediately following his college career, Mr. Coleman was connected for a while with the jewelry firm of Davis and Freeman in Atlanta. He returned to Macon, and with W. E. Dunwody founded the Cherokee Brick Company in 1900; and later organized the wholesale drug concern, Coleman-Meadows-Pate Drug Company, both of which he had continued to serve as president through the years.

On January 9, 1901, at Mulberry Street Methodist Church in Macon, Samuel Taylor Coleman II was married to Edith Dean Stetson of Macon. Mrs. Coleman was the daughter of Eugenia Sophia Pate and James Daniel Stetson, both formerly of Hawkinsville, Georgia. Mr. Stetson early in his married life became a prominent banker of Macon. Mr. and Mrs. Stetson were both leaders in church and civic affairs. The children of Edith Stetson Coleman and Samuel Taylor Coleman II, all born in Macon, are: Samuel Taylor Coleman III (born March 25, 1902); James Daniel Stetson Coleman (born September 29, 1904); Eugenia Alberta Coleman (Mrs. Charles Newton Wasden), born April 8, 1910.

Mr. Coleman had four granddaughters: Elizabeth Heath Coleman (born Macon September 12, 1928), Edith Stetson Coleman (born Macon July 29, 1933), daughters of Elizabeth Tennent Heath and Samuel Taylor Coleman III; Eugenia Coleman Wasden (born Macon February 10, 1935) and Edith Stetson Wasden (born Macon, March 5, 1938), daughters of Eugenia Alberta Coleman and Dr. Charles Newton Wasden.

Mrs. Samuel Taylor Coleman II (Edith Dean Stetson) died in Macon June 8, 1946. She was a leader in the affairs of Mulberry Street Methodist Church, a Trustee of Wesleyan College, and an active member of the following patriotic societies: United Daughters of the Confederacy, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Colonial Dames of America.

Samuel Taylor Coleman II was long prominent in the civic and social affairs of Macon. He was a member of Christ Episcopal Church, where he served as a vestryman for many years, and at the same time served on the Board of Trustees of the Appleton Church Home. He has held directorships in several banks, in the Georgia State Fair Association, as well as in the Macon Dublin & Savannah Railway, and the Wadley Southern Railway. He was a member of the Rotary Club, the Idle Hour Country Club, the Satilla River Fishing Club, the Yellow Hammers Club, the Macon Art Association, and the Community Concert Association.

Although Mr. Coleman was unable to participate in any war himself, he fought valiantly from the home front in boosting the morale of his sons and son-in-law, all of whom saw active duty during World War II. Samuel Taylor Coleman III, Lt. Sr. Grade U. S. Navy, was connected with Applied Physics Laboratory of The Johns Hopkins University, with headquarters in Washington, D. C. For two years he did contact work in secret research and was discharged with the rank of Lt. Commander. James Daniel Stetson Coleman, Captain in the U. S. Marines, entered service early in the war and saw intense duty in the Pacific, entering Guadacanal with the first Marines. He served in the Pacific area for over two years, and holds reserve commission of Major in the Marines. Dr. Charles Newton Wasden, Lt. Colonel U. S. Army, served as Chief of Surgery of the 15th Evacuation Hospital attached to 2nd Corps in North Africa, later to Patton's Army in Sicily, and Gen. Mark Clark's 5th Army in Italy. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for outstanding service rendered on Anzio beachhead.

Mr. Coleman died May 24, 1949.



MRS. SAMUEL TAYLOR COLEMAN II

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Mrs. Samuel Taylor Coleman II (Edith Dean Stetson) was born in Hawkinsville, Georgia, June 12, 1879, the daughter of Eugenia Sophia Pate (Jan. 29, 1852 - July 31, 1906) and James Daniel Stetson (May 30, 1846 - March 17, 1901). Her father, a prominent banker, moved the family to Macon in her early childhood, where she attended grammar school and high school. Her four brothers are John Pate Stetson (deceased), Charles Lathrop (deceased), Eugene William Stetson, New York, and James Daniel Stetson, New York.

At Wesleyan College, Edith Dean Stetson won sophomore and junior medals for English composition, was president of the senior class, president of Phi Mu Sorority, and first-honor graduate when she received her A.B. degree in 1897. Throughout her lifetime, she maintained a keen interest in Wesleyan, serving as president of the Alumnae Association, and later, as Alumni Trustee. As a money-making project for Wesleyan, she edited and published "The Macon Cook Book" in 1909 and brought out a revised edition in 1936.

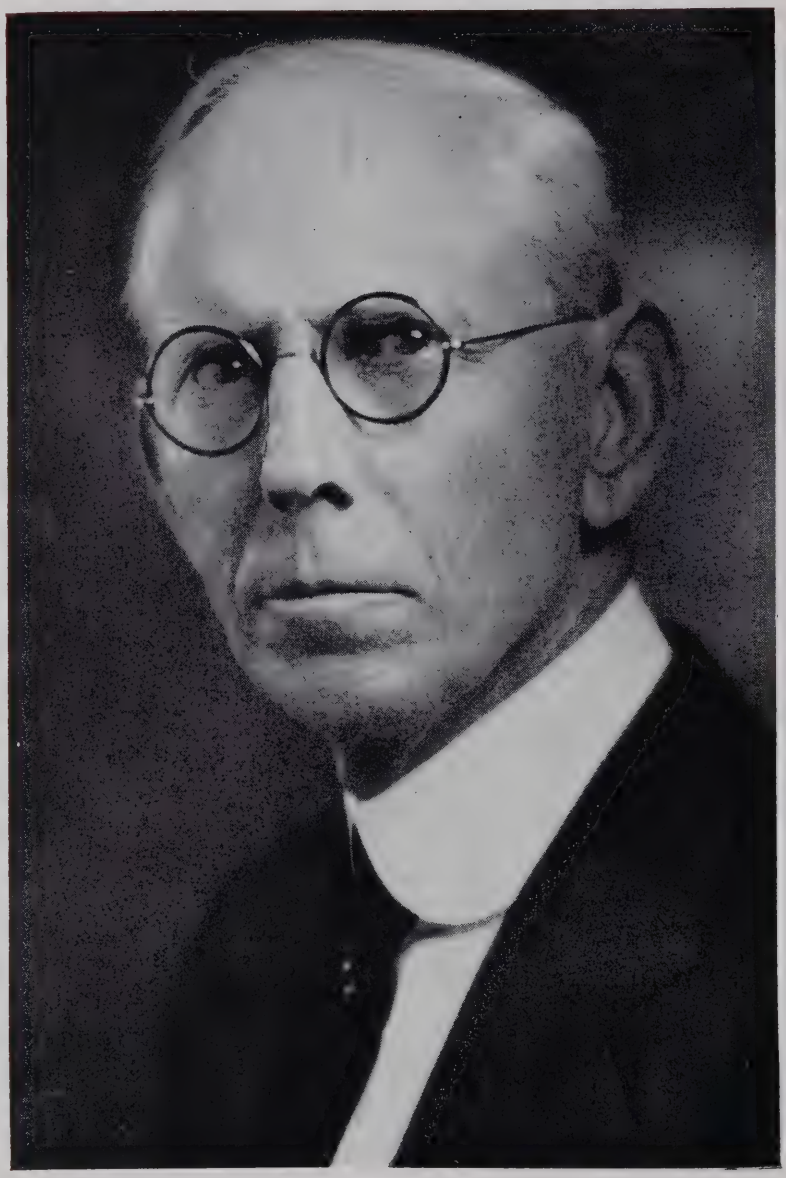
On January 9, 1901, at Mulberry Street Methodist Church in Macon, Miss Stetson was married to Samuel Taylor Coleman II, son of Alberta Aurelia Hilsman and Samuel Taylor Coleman of Macon. Three children born of this union are: Samuel Taylor Coleman III, Rockville, Maryland; James Daniel Stetson Coleman, The Plains, Virginia; and Eugenia Alberta Coleman (Mrs. Charles Newton Wasden, Macon).

Mrs. Coleman became an active leader in all civic and social affairs. She was a member of the U.D.C., D.A.R., and Colonial Dames of America. She taught in the Sunday School Department of Mulberry Street Methodist Church for forty-six years. She served as president for various organizations, some of which were: Lanier High School P.T.A., Macon Art Association, Y.M.C.A. Auxiliary, Heimath Hall Board (present Y.W.C.A. residence), and Macon Wesleyan Alumnae Association. She served on the State Board of Colonial Dames as historian, and organized the chapter of Bundles for Britain in Macon during the early stages of World War II. She built and equipped a church in China in memory of her mother.

Mrs. Coleman's varied interests are too numerous to list. Throughout her busy lifetime, she still made time for her talent in writing. Besides a voluminous correspondence with thousands of friends and relatives, she continued to write historical papers and various poems, many of which were published.

Mrs. Coleman's gracious home was constantly opened to newcomers, visiting dignitaries, church friends, and civic gatherings. During the summer months she maintained her beach house at St. Simons Island, Ga., mainly for the pleasure of her children and four granddaughters.

Mrs. Coleman died in Macon, Georgia, June 8, 1946. Her ardent loyalty to her church and Wesleyan, the many organizations to which she belonged, and her charitable goodness to all who crossed her path, both white and colored, will long be remembered. Her many friends and relatives will cherish the memory of her vivacious, enthusiastic, brilliant and kind intellect.



EDMUND FRANCIS COOK

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Edmund Francis Cook, D.D.—Minister, civic leader. Fifty years of labor in his Master's vineyard; fifty years of unremitting service to his fellow man, guiding others in the paths of right living and right thinking. Dr. Cook entered the Methodist ministry in 1887, retired in 1937. He has shown that the Christian life is the happiest, for he has been an ambassador of cheerfulness and goodwill through his many avenues of service, and is always a welcome addition socially. His cultivated mind has caused him to be in demand as a speaker for patriotic organizations and various civic clubs. He is a member of the Palaver Club (a cultural club of twelve members) and the Macon Civitan Club.

Dr. Cook was born in Marietta, Georgia, on January 24, 1867, the son of the Rev. W. F. Cook, D.D., and Louisa J. (Richards) Cook. His father was born in Talbot County on Nov. 20, 1832, the son of the Rev. Francis Cook and Margaret Ellison, and died Dec. 18, 1902. His mother, Louisa J. Richards, born Oct. 26, 1836, in Macon, was the daughter of Alexander Richards, a pioneer citizen of Macon, and Melinda Rylander, his wife. Besides Edmund Francis, the children of the Rev. W. F. and Louisa Cook are: Ellison Richards (deceased), Mary Lou (Mrs. T. E. Atkinson), Florrie (Mrs. George White), and Margaret M. Cook.

In his childhood Edmund F. Cook attended school in Atlanta, and at the age of 14 entered the sub-freshman class at Emory College, Oxford. Later he prepared for college at the Georgia Military Academy in Milledgeville, and returned to Emory for his sophomore year. Because of bad eyes and a frail body he did not complete the course. At Emory he was a member of Chi Phi social fraternity. In later years he became a member of the International Society of Theta Phi, honorary society for ministers, and is now a member of the South Georgia Conference Relief Association. In 1909 the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by Emory College.

He served in the South Georgia Conference, Centennial Circuit, in 1888, and the St. Mary's Charge 1889 and 1890. In Brunswick, Georgia, he was pastor of McKendree Methodist Church, 1891-1894, and of the First Church, 1895 through April, 1898, when he was appointed by the Governor as Captain and Chaplain of the 1st Georgia Regiment of Infantry during the Spanish-American War, serving from May, 1898, to the end of the conflict.

Immediately after the war, Capt. Cook assumed the pastorate of Wesley Monumental Church in Savannah (1898-1902), and in 1903 became District Superintendent of the Thomasville District, serving through 1906. From 1906 to 1910 Dr. Cook served as Educational Secretary of the General Board of Missions; this led to his appointment as Foreign Secretary of the General Board of Missions, serving in this responsible position seven years (1910-1917). In 1918 he was elected president of Scarritt College, a co-educational school for social-religious workers, founded in 1893. Here Dr. Cook gave four of the most fruitful years of his busy life.

In 1923 Dr. Cook was appointed Associate Secretary of the Board of Christian Education, which office he held for four years. In November, 1927, he resumed his work as pastor, coming to the Vineville Methodist Church, Macon, for more than five years, and ending his active service at Mulberry Street Methodist Church in November, 1937, where he had served over four years. Dr. Cook was retired in November, 1937, rounding out his pastoral duties of twenty-nine years and his secretarial and administrative work of twenty-one years, totaling fifty years of active service.

On February 14, 1894, Edmund Francis Cook married Annie M. Cargill, daughter of John Wesley and Mariah L. (Holland) Cargill of Columbus, Georgia. One child, Malcolm MacDonell Cook, was born in Thomasville, Georgia, June 15, 1906.

Summing up his life in Macon, a recent publication said of him: "Dr. Edmund F. Cook has truly been a shepherd of the flock in a city which he dearly loves, and whose people dearly love him. He has been laying spiritual foundations here for more than twenty years, is a civic leader with pride in a prosperous and growing community, is an inspiration to the young and a consolation to the aged and infirm."



JOHN DAVID CRUMP

JOHN DAVID CRUMP

John David Crump (J. D.)—Wholesale Druggist. Were he not such a successful business executive, one would be inclined to put rose-growing and knowledge of flowers as foremost in his thinking. Well does everyone recall when he was President of the newly formed Bibb County Flower Show, when a storm before the opening apparently devastated all gardens and laid all prize flowers flat, and when he personally phoned every friend who owned a flower to bring *it* to the auditorium. And quantities of flowers were the result—great tubs full of double larkspur, peonies, roses, and myriads of other blossoms. Mr. Crump is a member of the Georgia Rose Society, American Rose Society, National Rose Society of England and the American Camellia Society.

One wonders how Mr. Crump has found time to give so much of his valuable services to the patriotic, the esthetic, the civic and the administrative life of Macon while carrying forward a tremendous wholesale business. During World War I he served as Chairman of Macon Red Cross and Chairman for Bibb County of the First, Second and Fourth Liberty Loan drives, and zone Chairman of the Third drive. With the war over he, was Chairman of the Welcome Committee on the return of three of the four companies constituting the 151st Machine Gun Battalion of the Rainbow Division. His military interests continued as Captain of the Floyd Rifles, Company C, 151st Regiment, National Guards of Georgia.

Mr. Crump was one of the organizers of the Macon Community Concert Association, which he served as president for several years. Civic pride knows no difference in denominations and, although a staunch Episcopalian, Mr. Crump was selected for the chairmanship of Bibb County Committee for building Greater Wesleyan, a Methodist College. Because of his knowledge of administrative affairs, he was elected to the City Council during the term of Mayor Wallace Miller, and was President of the Macon Rotary Club for 1916-17. In May, 1910, Mr. Crump was elected State and County Tax Collector for Bibb County, which elective office he held continuously for fourteen years. With his keen interest in educational matters, he was elected in 1933 to the Bibb County Board of Education, which is self-perpetuating. He served as Scout Master of Troop No. 1 and Commissioner of the Bibb County Scout Council. He was one of the first to receive the Silver Beaver Award from the Macon Council.

Mr. Crump's interest in the business growth and development of Macon inspired him to help organize the Macon Federal Savings and Loan Association, of which he is a director and past president. He is also a Director and Chairman of the Trust Committee of the First National Bank and Trust Company in Macon. In 1923, he joined J. B. Riley (q.v.) in the formation of the J. B. Riley Drug Company, which was successor to Lamar, Taylor, Riley Drug Company, and later became the Macon Division of McKesson and Robbins, Inc. Mr. Crump was Division Manager of McKesson and Robbins, Inc., Macon Division; is Regional Vice-President of the Southeast Region of McKesson and Robbins, Inc., and President of the National Wholesale Druggists Association, year 1948-1949. Whether an early love or a late love, he inherited from his father a love of dogs, especially setters.

John David Crump was born in West Point, Mississippi, on August 30, 1885, son of Stephen Alexander Crump (q.v.) and Lelia V. (Cook) Crump, and was brought to Macon, Georgia, by his parents at the age of three months. He attended the public schools of Bibb County, later attending Emory College, at Oxford, Georgia, where he was a member of the SAE fraternity. On June 18, 1913, John David Crump married Jennie Riley, daughter of Joseph Blount Riley (q.v.) and Julia (Tharpe) Riley of Macon. Their children are: J. D. Crump, Jr. (deceased, born Dec. 29, 1914); Joseph Riley Crump (born in Macon, Feb. 18, 1917, married Ruth Grace of Macon. Their children are: David Lyman Crump, Stephen Walter Crump and John Joseph Crump); and Helen Crump (Mrs. John Milton Cutler, whose only child is J. M. Cutler, Jr.).

J. D. Crump is a man of resolute will, with a heart that never swerved from his idea of right, and fearless enough to cling to the right.



STEPHEN ALEXANDER CRUMP

STEPHEN ALEXANDER CRUMP

Stephen Alexander Crump (1856-1931)—Lawyer. Reversing the advice of Horace Greeley, instead of going West to succeed in life, this young man from Mississippi, with the pioneering spirit, came East in December, 1885, and helped to develop Macon in the post-Reconstruction era. Macon's muddy, unpaved, gas-lighted streets were traversed by small, mule-drawn cars. Major Crump planned and brought to successful fruition the "dummy-line" railroad, running from Crump's Park through Vineville to its terminal at the Confederate monument. Later, the dummy line was electrified, becoming the first electrified trolley line in the South.

Three miles from Macon was Major Crump's home, and in his estate of ninety acres was the boldest spring in middle Georgia, the water from it dashing over granite boulders on its way to the Ocmulgee River. This spring, with a 20-acre tract of land, Major Crump gave to the city as a recreational rendezvous, "Crump's Park", where dances were held in the pavilion, and where stock companies and vaudeville played to enthusiastic audiences. This grew in popularity with the coming of the trolley cars, and was Macon's favorite picnic ground.

By profession, Major Crump was a lawyer, and a very able one; but the life of a "gentleman farmer" had a strong appeal. In November, 1886, he purchased for his home the farm and wooded section that had been occupied by the Brantley family for over fifty years, the tract being parts of lots 12 and 13, Macon Reserve West. Adjoining it on the northeast was the land of the Methodist Orphan Home, and on the southeast the W. A. Huff property. Its southern boundary was the right of way of the Central of Georgia railroad. The Forsyth "wagon road" ran through it. By August of the following year, Major Crump had had a greater part of the tract surveyed and divided up into building lots, some facing on Forsyth Road and others on Ridge Street, a new street running through the tract from east to west. This was Macon's first sub-division, and the lots were sold at auction.

To his farm beyond Vineville, Major Crump brought the first hydraulic ram, the science of hydraulics being little known in this section. He also introduced the first herd of registered Jersey cows for breeding and dairy purposes, including "Belle of Milford", which in her day was the champion milk cow of the U. S. Thus he gradually improved the stock and milk supply on nearby farms. He erected the first silo, in which green food was stored in summer for winter feeding. Fine horses and fox hunting were his hobbies, and he was known the country over for his love of fox hounds, and always had a pack of 15 or 20 of the best.

Stephen Alexander Crump, a man whose life was built around friendship and love for his fellowman, was born in West Point, Mississippi, June 11, 1856, third son of Dr. John Wesley Crump (born March 4, 1818, in Orange County, N. C.; died February 14, 1885, in West Point, Miss.) and Mary Elizabeth (Prewett) Crump (born June 23, 1819; died February 1, 1880). Dr. Crump was a prominent physician and surgeon, besides being an extensive landowner and planter in Mississippi and Arkansas. Other children of Dr. and Mrs. John W. Crump were: John Taylor Crump, M.D., Larkin Love Crump, M.D., Lemuel Crump, James Wesley Crump, Mary Pennia Crump and Perthrona Crump.

From his childhood Stephen A. Crump was known as "Major". He was asked by a Macon friend how he received the title "Major". His reply was that being a mere boy and too young to enlist in the Confederate army, he formed a company of Negroes and white boys on the plantation and drilled them with hickory sticks and broom handles. As a young man who loved nature and the out-of-doors, he often visited in Mississippi River towns and rode the river from Memphis to New Orleans on the old time packets and steamboats. Captains and crews were always glad to have "Young Crump" aboard, and often with horse and dogs.

He received his early schooling in Mississippi, then attended the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, where he was a member of DKE fraternity, and later studied law at the University of Mississippi. He was admitted to the bar in Mississippi at the age of 21, and served in the State Legislature as one of its youngest members.

Often in Memphis on business, he met Miss Lelia Cook, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Cook of Macon, Georgia, formerly of Memphis, Tennessee, whom he afterwards married. After the death of his father in 1885, he decided to move to Macon, and disposed of his plantations and other properties. He continued the practice of law in Macon, where he served several terms as Solicitor of the City Court. He was for several years Treasurer of Bibb County. Lawyers and citizens needed a system of abstracting titles of houses and land; so Major Crump formed the Bibb County Abstract Company, making and consolidating a complete up to date abstract of every piece and parcel of land in Bibb County, as shown by the records in the County Clerk's office. This was afterwards taken over by the Macon Guarantee Loan and Trust Company. He was well fitted for the law, being a scholar in Latin, Greek, English, ancient history and a knowledge of the Bible, but he never enjoyed court arguments. His whole life was built upon equity and right. He always fought his own battles and feared no man.

On August 18, 1882, Stephen Alexander Crump married Lelia V., daughter of David Riley and Sarah Ann (VanVoorhis) Cook, in Macon. Their children were: Kate Perthrona (Mrs. Leonard R. Booth, of Macon); John David Crump (q.v.); James Lyman Crump, of New Orleans and Bay St. Louis, Miss.; Armand Butts Crump (deceased) who had three children: Evelyn Leila Crump (Mrs. Robert E. Johnson, of Indio, Calif.), Armand Butts Crump, Jr., and Donald Elwood Crump, both of Indio, Calif.; Stephen A. Crump, Jr., of Milan, Italy; and Charles Kibbee Crump, Homosassa, Florida.



SPRIGHT DOWELL

SPRIGHT DOWELL

SPRIGHT DOWELL, LL.D., President of Mercer University, A.A.U., Macon, Georgia. What was said of General Lee as president of Washington and Lee University might well be said of Dr. Dowell: "With daring progressiveness, with consummate ability, with resistless and untiring energy, he began the work of reconstruction, and transformed a classical college of the 19th century type into a training school of leadership." Dr. Dowell was graduated with the A.B. degree from Wake Forest College in 1896, and received the M.A. degree from Columbia in 1911. The degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by the University of Alabama in 1920, by Howard College in 1928 and Baylor University in 1946.

He first attended school in Raleigh, North Carolina, then entered Wake Forest, where he was graduated at the age 18. Immediately he began teaching in Aulander, N. C. Two years later he went to Birmingham, Alabama, where he continued to teach, studied law and was admitted to the Bar. From 1907 to 1914 he was Supervising Principal of the Birmingham Public Schools; was State Superintendent of Education and director of teacher training for Alabama, 1916-1920, and President of Alabama Polytechnic, 1920-1928, in Auburn.

It was in 1928 that Dr. Dowell accepted the presidency of Mercer University, which office he now holds. As a leader in educational circles Dr. Dowell has shown a vigor of mind and clarity of vision that has put Mercer far to the forefront. His power to win friends and supporters for the university is based upon his absolute integrity and his sublime faith. He has seen Mercer develop from a one-dormitory unit to four splendidly equipped ones, with separate duplex apartments for married theology students. One dormitory, Mary Erin Porter Hall, is exclusively for women students and has two adjacent auxiliary buildings. He has seen the School of Law become a member of the Association of American Law Schools, and a School of Christianity added to the Liberal Arts College. He believes strongly in privately endowed colleges and universities, and that Christian education and the church-related Christian colleges are most dependable agencies for providing the stream of sustained leadership required for the ultimate triumph of righteousness, and that they are our best guarantee that our mode and machinery of government will be decentralized, democratic, diversified and dynamic. He has seen Mercer placed on the approved list of the Association of American Universities. He is planning to expand the Department of Education into a School of Education to include teacher training. It is an interesting fact that eight college presidents today are Mercer graduates, this record being exceeded only by Yale. In broadening her horizon with better methods of instruction, Dr. Dowell looks forward to the greatest period of development and usefulness in Mercer's long history. He maintains that the Christian college must encourage the spirit of thorough investigation, open-mindedness, creative thinking and faithful endeavor as the mainspring of its quest for truth and service.

Believing in the holiness of beauty as well as "the beauty of holiness", by his campus beautification development Dr. Dowell has taught the students that beauty and orderliness and cleanliness have an equal part in their lives with spiritual, intellectual, physical and moral training.

In his fifth year as President, he celebrated Mercer's centennial with a program that drew alumni from states throughout the country and aroused a pride in their alma mater that had lain dormant with many. From then on, Founders' Day, January 14, has been observed each year with increasing loyalty and enthusiasm by the University, the alumni and the student body.

Personal recognition of Dr. Dowell's abilities and far-sightedness has been given in that he was president of the Conference of Church-Related Colleges of the Southeast (1940-41), is President of the Georgia Baptist Convention and the Georgia Association of Colleges. Since 1930 he has been secretary and treasurer of the Southern Baptist Education Commission. He is a member of the American Academy of Sciences, the New York Southern Society, the Newcomen Society of North America, the National Education Association, the Georgia Education Association, the Macon Rotary Club and for twenty-one years a member of the Palaver Club, composed of a limited group of cultured men. There will soon be published his first book, a biography of Columbus Roberts, Mercer's most generous benefactor.

His fraternal societies are Phi Kappa Phi, Kappa Delta Pi, Eta Sigma, Alpha Phi Omega, and the Blue Key. He is also a Scottish Rite Mason. During World War I he served as state chairman of Junior Red Cross for Alabama. Dr. Dowell is the present chairman of the Board of Deacons of the First Baptist Church, Macon.

In 1948, in appreciation of his twenty years of inspirational service to Mercer, a testimonial dinner was given Dr. Dowell when tributes were paid him from the Georgia Baptist Convention, the Board of Trustees, the Alumni Association, the President's Council, the Mercer Faculty and the Student Body.

Born in Cary, North Carolina, on January 2, 1878, Spright Dowell was a son of the Rev. George James Dowell (b. Snow Hill, N. C., Jan. 5, 1848, d. March 2, 1928) and Trannia Avery Yates (b. Cary, N. C., Jan. 10, 1856, d. Mar. 25, 1941) who were married in Cary N. C., on January 11, 1877. Other children of that union were: W. B. Dowell, Rosina (Mrs. R. D. Coburn, deceased.) Clyde (Mrs. R. F. Beasley of Monroe, N. C.), George J. Dowell, Jr., Elizabeth (Mrs. Claud Jenkins), A. Yates Dowell and Dr. Pattie Simmons Dowell.

On December 28, 1898, Spright Dowell married Camille Early, daughter of Abner W. and Eugenia (Watson) Early, of Aulander, North Carolina. Their children are: William, Camille Early (Mrs. Charles Scott), Edwin E., Mary Barrett (Mrs. Brooks Youmans) and Spright, Jr. Grandchildren: William Dowell, Jr., and Patricia Dowell, Charles and Eugene Scott, Edwin E. Dowell, Jr., George and Charles Youmans, Spright Dowell III and Camille Dowell III.

It has been said of Dr. Dowell: "He thinks of Mercer, not as a memorial to a great religious denomination, nor as a monument to any man, but as a creation of the spirit, or as a light that will guide or lead the way to a higher level of living."



ROBERT CLEVELAND DUNLAP

ROBERT CLEVELAND DUNLAP

Robert Cleveland Dunlap, a native of Harris County came to Macon in 1910 and took a position with the Fourth National Bank as manager of Country Bank Department. Within a short period he was promoted to assistant cashier and in 1916 he was elected cashier and vice-president. Seeing opportunities in the automotive field Mr. Dunlap resigned his position with the bank and organized the Fountain, Dunlap Auto Company, having the dealership for Buick, Cadillac and Hudson automobiles. A year later Mr. Dunlap became owner of the business and has continued in this field since that time. At various times he was president of corporations with automobile agencies in Atlanta, Columbus, and Barnesville.

In 1930 Mr. Dunlap purchased the Chevrolet franchise and disposed of all his other agencies. The Dunlap Chevrolet Company is still one of the leading automobile agencies in Macon and Mr. Dunlap has his two sons R. C., Jr. and James W. associated with him in this company. In addition to serving on many committees for General Motors, he organized and served as first president of the Georgia Automobile Dealers' Association in 1920. He has also served as president of the Macon Automobile Dealers' Association.

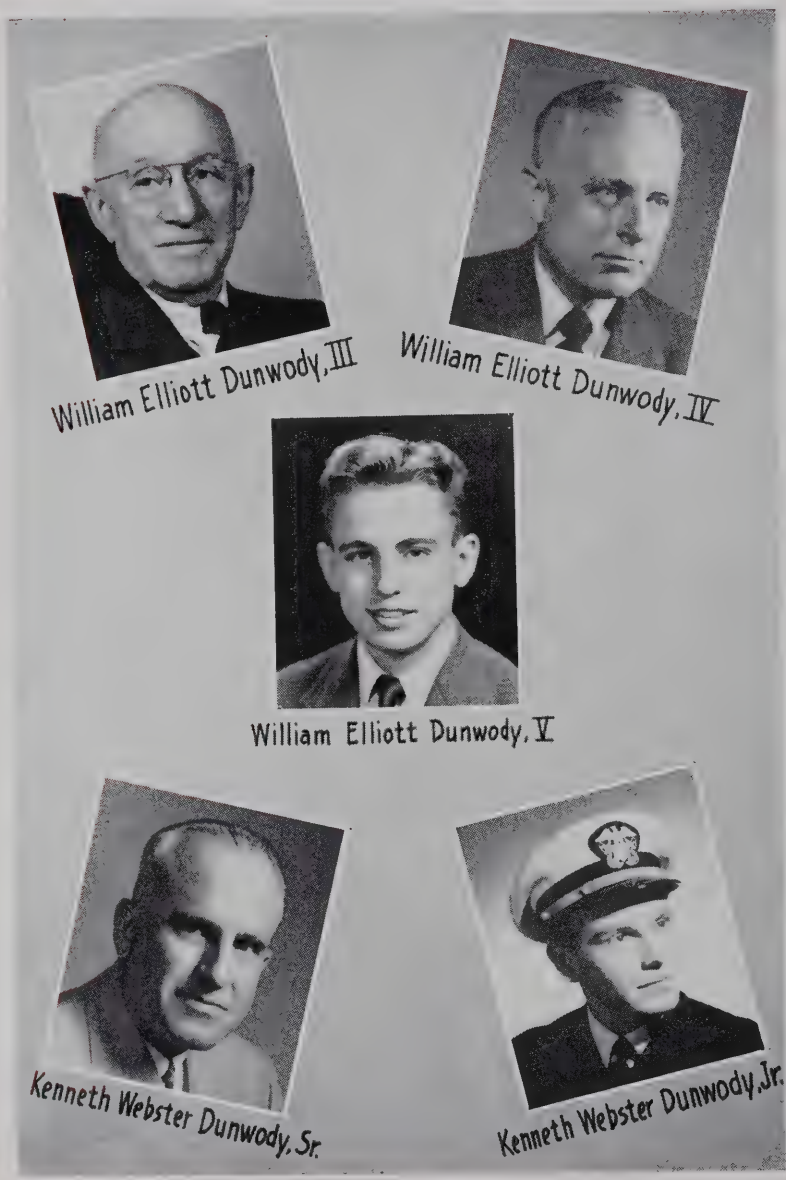
The Continental Trust Company elected Mr. Dunlap as its president in 1927 and later when this bank was sold to the Trust Company of Georgia, Atlanta, there was a consolidation of Macon Banks and he became honorary vice-president of the First National Bank and Trust Company. He continues to serve as a director of this institution and has been a member and chairman of the Finance Committee for many years.

While serving as president of the Dunlap Hardware Company, one of the outstanding wholesale hardware houses in the south, he reorganized the personnel, modernized the business and in 1930 sold it to the Peeler Hardware Company who still are in business.

Despite his close application to business, Mr. Dunlap has found time for active participation in the civic and religious life of Macon. In 1914 he was assistant treasurer of the Georgia State Sanitarium and since 1920 he has been a director and trustee of the Macon Young Men's Christian Association. In 1924 he was treasurer of the building fund of the Vineville Methodist Church and is a steward and trustee of that church. In 1947 he served as president of the Vineville Methodist Men's Club and since 1947 he has been chairman of the Centennial Building Committee of the Vineville Methodist Church. Mr. Dunlap is a member of the Idle Hour Country Club, the Satilla River Fishing Club, was a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Macon, serving as director at various times. Being an outdoor sports enthusiast Mr. Dunlap enjoys his off hours on the golf course and during the season hunting with his friends.

Robert Cleveland Dunlap was born April 1, 1884 son of Joseph Thomas Dunlap (born June 18, 1846; died March 7, 1913) and Lola Hamilton Dunlap (born June 29, 1846; died August 13, 1932). On May 15, 1906 in Zetella, Georgia he married Annie Lou Williams, daughter of James Daniel and Emily Fuller Williams. To this union were born the following children: Anne Elizabeth, (Mrs. J. Durward Watson); Robert Cleveland; Ethel Josephine (Mrs. M. Troutman Wilson); and James Williams.

Children of Anne Elizabeth (Mrs. J. Durward Watson) are, Judson Durward and Laura Lanier Watson. Robert Cleveland Dunlap, Jr., married Martha Virgina Gates and they have two children, Anne and Margina Gates Dunlap. Children of Ethel Josephine (Mrs. M. Troutman Wilson) are Elizabeth Dunlap, Marcella Troutman and Grace Troutman Wilson. James Williams married Adelaide Ann Williamson.



THE DUNWODY FAMILY

WILLIAM E. DUNWODY

William Elliott Dunwody, III — Brick manufacturing. Pride in ancestry engenders in one a desire to keep the family name not only above reproach but on such a high plane that this and future generations may look upon it also with pride and respect.

The name DUNWODY in Georgia commands respect and admiration in the business, professional, social and religious world, for each generation has seen to it that its lustre is not dimmed. Because of their long continued residence in Georgia, it will add interest and value to give an outline of the Dunwody family. In 1770, when Georgia was composed of parishes, Dr. James D. Dunwody, M.D. settled in St. John's Parish which, with St. James's and St. Andrew's parishes, became Liberty County in 1777. This Dr. Dunwody, born in Chester County, Penn., in 1751, was the son of John Dunwody (1707-1776) and Susanna Creswell who were married on Sept. 8, 1741. Dr. Dunwody married Mrs. Esther (Dean) Splatt (1746-1812) of Arcadia in November, 1774. He died in Savannah, Ga., in 1809. Their son, John Dunwody (1788-1858) married Jane Bulloch (1788-1856) in Sunbury, Ga., June 7, 1808, daughter of Archibald Bulloch. A son was born to them in Liberty County, Ga., on Nov. 6, 1823, William Elliott Dunwody, who married Ruth Anne Atwood (1826-1899), in Darien, Ga., Nov. 12, 1846. He became a physician and practiced in Marietta, Roswell and Macon, Ga. His death occurred in Macon on June 15, 1891. Their son, William Elliott Dunwody, Jr., born in Marietta, July 15, 1848, married Aimee Taylor LaRoche (1850-1934) of Savannah, Ga., on Jan. 3, 1870. It was in Savannah that the subject of this sketch, William Elliott Dunwody III, the sixth in direct line, was born, December 17, 1870. His only sister, Aimee LaRoche Dunwody (Mrs. John Wilder Glover) died in Marietta, in 1947. He has one brother living, J. Marion Dunwody of Macon, and three brothers deceased.

W. E. Dunwody III removed to Macon with his parents in 1873, attended local schools, and entered Mercer University, on a city scholarship, at the age of fourteen, where he was enrolled for three years. At Mercer he was a member of the ATO social fraternity. In 1889 he went to Boston and spent two years with an uncle who was engaged in shoe manufacturing. There he became cashier of the firm of Ballance and Sorrell; however, the death of his father caused him to return to Macon, where he accepted a position as cashier of the Macon Hardware Company in 1891. In 1894 Mr. Dunwody became cashier of the Union Savings & Trust Company, savings department of The Exchange Bank. After an interval "he found the key that unlocked the door of opporunity" when he became connected with the firm of C. C. Stratton, local brick manufacturer. In 1900, Mr. Dunwody organized the Cherokee Brick & Tile Company of Macon and has continued as Vice-President. In 1904 he became President of the Standard Brick & Tile Company and soon lived up to his slogan: "We ship a train-load a day."

With a keen mind trained to finance in his banking experiences and an indefatigable energy directed toward his manufacturing interests, he rapidly rose to the top in local, state and national circles, and in the 1920's was elected President of the National Brick Manufacturers Association.

His talent for leadership was shown as President of the Macon Chamber of Commerce, the Georgia State Fair Association, the Y.M.C.A., the Red Cross, the National Structural Tile Association, and as Director of the Coleman-Meadows-Pate Drug Company, the Citizens & Southern National Bank, the Louisville & Wadley Railroad, and as advisor to Administration N.R.A. Structural Clay Products Code. His interest in educational matters is evinced in his membership on the Alexander Free School Board. No family in Macon has been more actively associated with the First Presbyterian Church than the Dunwody's, and his fine tenor voice was added to the choir for many years. Mr. Dunwody is a Mason (K.T. Shriner), a member of the Idle Hour Country Club ,and a charter member of the Macon Rotary Club. His military affiliation was with the Macon Volunteers, as a petty officer.

On October 11, 1891, William Elliott Dunwody III married Elizabeth Webster, daughter of Edward and Martha (Lewis) Webster of Macon. The charming and beautiful "Miss Bessie" has added much to the social life of Macon in the fifty-eight years of their married life. Their children are: William Elliott Dunwody IV, architect (q.v.) and Kenneth Webster Dunwody (q.v.).

WILLIAM ELLIOTT DUNWODY, IV

William Elliott Dunwody, IV—Architect. In considering the many talents of this well-rounded citizen, now in his prime, it is a notable fact that he has contributed these talents generously to the city of his birth. The peak of his profession, so far, has been reached in the groups of buildings planned for his native city. The groups of buildings at Wesleyan College and Mercer University reflect his guiding hand, and the many buildings on the campus of Georgia State College for Women attest his art. Of the many individual buildings planned by him in Macon, the office building erected for The Bankers Health and Life Insurance Company, P. L. Hay, President (q.v.), is the most outstanding in beauty and efficiency.

Mr. Dunwody's leadership in the world of music, drama, art and scouting attests his unusual ability, high character, generosity of self, and his love for his native heath. He was born in Macon, reared in Macon, educated, partly, in Macon and makes his home here. Since his early young manhood he has been a social leader, and gives unstintedly of his time to his church, the First Presbyterian, where he is a deacon and a former teacher of a boys' class. His name at the head of any movement spells success beforehand.

W. Elliott Dunwody, IV, was born June 1, 1893, son of William E. Dunwody (q.v.) and Elizabeth (Webster) Dunwody. He attended the public school and Mercer University, and spent four years at the Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, where he was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture in 1914. He became a member of the K.A. social fraternity at college, then served many years as Province Commander, and is now the Knight Commander of the Kappa Alpha Order in America.

In 1915, Mr. Dunwody established himself in his chosen profession under the firm name of Nisbet and Dunwody; in 1920 the firm became Dunwody and Oliphant; and in 1929, then a recognized leader in his profession, Mr. Dunwody's firm name became W. ELLIOTT DUNWODY, JR., ARCHITECT; and for twenty years he has added lustre to the name. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects and was Vice President of the Georgia Chapter in 1931. Since 1931 he has been on the Georgia State Board for the Examination and Registration of Architects, having served as President.

Apart from his profession, it would be hard to determine which of his intersets has claimed most attention. Music and rhythm are a part of his being, and his fine voice has given pleasure in musical plays, concerts and private entertainments. He is vice-president of the Macon Community Concert Association and served as president of the former Macon Civic Opera Company. He has taken the leading role in countless productions, and at present is a member of the Board of Directors and President of the Macon Little Theatre, where the fine acting of his wife and himself has been instrumental in placing it on the high plane it has reached.

Keenly alive to the cultural interests of his native city, Mr. Dunwody helped promote the Macon Art Association, and is a past president. Scouting has long held his interest as a character-building and body-building influence for youths. He is a Scout Master, and Past President of the Central Georgia Council of Boy Scouts of America. He has been quite active in the Red Cross, and has recently been elected to the Board of Directors of the Macon Chapter and Chairman of the 1950 Drive. He is also a Trustee of the YMCA. His splendid personality and fine spirit of co-operation brought to him the presidency of the Macon Rotary Club, 1935-36, and his unanimous choice as District Governor, Rotary International, 1944-45. He was elected to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia for a three-year term, 1932-35, and his service on various committees was valuable to the Regents in their early administration. He is a past president of the Georgia Citizens Council, 1947-49.

In World War I, Mr. Dunwody was a Second Lieutenant, C.A.C., U.S.R., and went to France with the American Expeditionary Force. In addition to army service, he subsequently traveled in Europe. He is a Director of the First National Bank and Trust Company and of the Idle Hour Country Club.

On June 9, 1926, W. Elliott Dunwody, IV, married in Camilla, Georgia, Mary Bennet Cox, daughter of Congressman Eugene E. Cox and Roberta (Patterson) Cox. Her mother was a daughter of Robert M. Patterson of Macon, and Mary Ann (Lamar) Patterson, widow of Jefferson Lamar, and daughter of Andrew J. and Mary Athena (Jackson) Lamar. Children: William Elliott Dunwody, V, and Eugene Cox Dunwody. W. Elliott Dunwody, V, was born January 31, 1930, in Macon. He was graduated from Lanier High School for Boys in June, 1948, was Captain in R.O.T.C., and judged "the best all round student officer." He is a Past District Governor of Key Club International, and in 1947 was Speaker of the House Youth Assembly. He is an Eagle Scout, and Assistant Scout Master, Troop 3. At present he is a member of the Student Council, Georgia Institute of Technology, where he is a member of the K.A. fraternity.

Eugene Cox Dunwody was born July 19, 1933, in Macon. He is a student at Lanier High School for Boys; Corporal in R.O.T.C., and a member of Hi-Y Club. Mr. and Mrs. Dunwody have broadened their children's horizon by travel in most of the states, and in Canada. They are planning a European tour in 1950.

KENNETH WEBSTER DUNWODY

KENNETH WEBSTER DUNWODY—President, Cherokee Brick & Tile Company. Born with the proverbial silver spoon in his mouth, he was content to start at the bottom in his father's highly successful manufacturing plant, the Cherokee Brick & Tile Company, with the idea of mastering the business, his only taskmaster being himself. On his graduation in 1918 from the Georgia School of Technology with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering, he began as a mechanic, then machine foreman, rose to assistant superintendent, superintendent, general manager, vice-president and president, which highly responsible position he has held since. He claims that at the age of seventeen he worked in the blacksmith shop of the Central of Georgia Railroad in Macon, in preparation for his career. In 1926 he took time out to take post-graduate work in ceramics at the University of Illinois. He is now President of the Southern Brick & Tile Manufacturing Association, member of A. S. T. M. (American Society for Testing Materials), and President of the Dixston Brick Company of Jacksonville, Florida. He holds membership in the American Ceramic Society, the Southern Research Institute Advisory Council, and is a registered professional engineer, State of Georgia. He is a former vice-president of the National Brick Manufacturing Association.

Kenneth Webster Dunwody was born in Macon, Georgia, April 12, 1897, second son of William Elliott Dunwody III (q.v) and Elizabeth Lowe (Webster) Dunwody. He attended the local schools, and after graduating from Lanier High School for Boys, entered the Georgia School of Technology where he was graduated in 1918 with the degree of B.S.M.E. He is a member of the Kappa Alpha social fraternity. His training from earliest manhood has been along the lines of clear reasoning, infinite painstaking, attention to details, and, withal, a sympathetic understanding of those associated with him.

His first venture into politics was for Bibb County Commissioner in 1948 and he was elected with an overwhelming vote. He is a former chairman of the Bibb County Crime Commission. He is at present a director in the Coleman, Meadows, Pate Drug Company of Macon, the Macon, Dublin & Savannah Railway Company, the Macon Chamber of Commerce as chairman of the Levee Committee and director of the Manufacturers' Bureau, the Bibb Transit Company, the Tricon Minerals, Inc., Altamaha River Association, and a trustee of the Clay Products Research Institute, Inc. of N. C., and of the Macon Y.M.C.A. Mr. Dunwody has been a member of the Macon Rotary Club since 1920, and has held the offices of Director, Vice-President and President, the last office in 1942. He is a charter member of the Idle Hour Country Club, and holds membership in the B.P.O.E. (Elks) Club. He is at present a member of the Board of Deacons of the First Presbyterian Church and a past chairman of the Board. In World War I he served in the U. S. Naval Reserve at Cape May, New Jersey, June, 1918—February, 1919, and is a member of Joseph N. Neel Post No. 3, American Legion.

On June 24, 1920, Kenneth Webster Dunwody married Pauline Coleman Hinkle of Bardstown, Kentucky, daughter of Coleman Brown and Katherine Stone (Coleman) Hinkle. Their children are: Katherine Elizabeth (Betty) Dunwody (Mrs. Thomas Alfred Sams of Macon, Ga.), and Kenneth Webster Dunwody, Jr. Betty attended Ashley Hall School for Girls in Charleston, South Carolina, in preparation for entering Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee. She was graduated from Wesleyan College, Macon, in January, 1944, with the A.B. degree. She held the position of analytical chemist at the Naval Ordnance Plant, Macon, Ga., from June, 1944 to August, 1945, when she accepted the position of Paying and Receiving Teller, First National Bank & Trust Company, in December, 1945. On May 8, 1946, she married Thomas Alfred Sams of Macon. She is a member of the Junior League of Macon and President of the Town and Country Garden Club. Mrs. Sams is a member of the First Baptist Church. Thomas Alfred Sams was First Lieutenant in the Marine Corps, Aviation Branch, World War II and received the Distinguished Flying Cross for service in the Pacific Area. He is a member of the Macon Rotary Club, the Idle Hour Country Club, and the SAE fraternity. They have one child, Thomas Alfred Sams, Jr., born July 8, 1949.

Kenneth Webster Dunwody, Jr., Naval officer, attended the Georgia School of Technology from June, 1943, to March, 1944. He entered the U. S. Naval Academy in June, 1944, where he was graduated with the degree of B.S. in electrical engineering in June, 1948, at present is on the U.S.S. Witek. He is a member of the First Baptist Church and Kappa Alpha fraternity.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Dunwody are deeply interested in flowers and shrubs and their formal gardens in their estate at Rivoli, near Macon, are the mecca of garden clubs.



LEON SEBRING DURE

LEON SEBRING DURE

Leon Sebring Dure (1874-1948)—courtly, suave, deliberate; never hurried in speech or manner; generous, thoughtful; fond of a good story. These were the characteristics which his friends knew best. Although slight of build and below average in height, yet his distinguished bearing gave the impression of a man of larger stature. He was immaculately dressed always.

In the "horse-and-buggy" days, Mr. Dure rode to and from his place of business with a groom doing the driving; with the advent of the automobile he drove the first electric coupe, which was inclined to stall on Macon's hills.

Leon Dure was born in Brunswick, Georgia, son of George Augustus Dure (1832-1908) and Julia Kendrick (1836-1929). She was the daughter of John Bull and Sarah (Powell) Kendrick, and the grandmother of Jones Kendrick who removed from Virginia in 1793 to Wilkes County, Georgia, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. George A. Dure was a Captain of Jackson Artillery in the Confederate Army, enlisting in Bibb County, and commanded his battery in the action at Bridgeport and at Battle Creek. The family was of French descent, from the family of Dure de Soligne. George A. Dure, a native of Savannah, Ga., came to Macon at the age of fourteen. When twenty-five years of age he married Julia Hendrick on December 22, 1857, in Sparta, Ga., at the home of her uncle, William Simpson. Their daughters were Lily (Mrs. Harry Ferree), Emma (Mrs. George Cherry) and Anna (Mrs. Frank Coburn).

In his school days Leon Dure showed an aptness for business when the boys of his age played "keeping store". His first "job" was with the old Commercial Bank. His earliest earnings were invested in real estate, and by the time he was fully grown his real estate holdings paid handsomely. He was always a social favorite, and belonged to the exclusive social clubs of the "gay nineties"; the Thalians, Cherokee, Log Cabin and Nine O'Clock Dancing Clubs; the Cut Glass Euchre Club and the Jokers. In his later years he was a member of the Elks Club (BPOE) and the Idle Hour Country Club. He was an active member of the Macon Rotary Club at the time of his death.

His love of reading and his keen grasp of civic affairs soon engendered an interest in politics, which led to his being elected an alderman in 1906. He was Mayor pro-tem. in 1907 in the Bridges Smith administration. He was elected a Bibb County Commissioner in January, 1933, and served two terms—eight years. He considered he gave the best years of his life to this work.

His ability to think clearly on financial matters and his keen judgment kept him constantly in demand as an officer in various enterprises: vice-president of the Macon Railway and Light Company and the Macon Gas Company; an officer of the Central Georgia Power Company and the Central Georgia Transmission Company, which were absorbed by the Georgia Power Company and he was elected vice-president. He was president of the old Fourth National Bank, the Southland Knitting Mills, the Manchester Manufacturing Company and the Dure & Beeks Company and the Realty Investment Company. He was a vestryman in Christ Episcopal Church.

On July 26, 1906, he married Kathleen McGregor at Christ Church. She was the daughter of James Alexander and Mary (Freeman) McGregor, and the granddaughter of John Arthur McGregor who served with the Macon Volunteers in the Mexican War. Her Revolutionary ancestors were Col. Joseph Hutchins (1739-1776) and Robert Freeman (1751-1810), both of Virginia, and Corp. Littleton Johnston (1756-1842) of Maryland. There were two children: Leon Sebring Dure, Jr., and Mary.

Leon Dure, Jr., born in Macon in 1907, married Katherine Macken. He served as Major in AEF during World War II; received the Bronze Star award in the India-Burma theatre. Children: Leon S. Dure III, and Kendrick Dure. Mary Dure, also born in Macon married Buford Sandford Birdsey of Macon, June 15, 1935. He was a Lieutenant, U. S. Navy, in World War II. He received a citation for service on staff of Admiral John H. Towers, Commander Air Force Pacific Fleet. They have one son, Buford Sandford Birdsey, Jr.



CHARLEY WALTON FARMER

CHARLEY WALTON FARMER

CHARLEY WALTON FARMER—Dealer in wholesale hardware, mill and electrical supplies. Manufacturer of oxygen and acetylene.

A man must have implicit faith in himself, must know that he has that something which it takes to make a success in life, and must have his wife's absolute confidence in his innate ability, to give up a paying "job" and launch out into the business world on his own without capital and with no particular vocation in mind. This, Charley Farmer did when he had been married ten years and had lived in Macon two years. He gave up traveling for mill supplies, and decided to sell rubber belting. He became the largest dealer in belting in the eastern half of the United States, and is now President of the C. W. Farmer Company, dealing in wholesale hardware, mill and electrical supplies, and also President of the Georgia Oxygen Company of Macon, Georgia.

Charley Walton Farmer was born in Fort Gaines, Georgia, on January 25, 1897, son of Henry Martin and Rosa (Barnes) Farmer. The following year his parents removed to Andalusia, Alabama, and in 1903 to Samson, Alabama. It was in Samson that Charley obtained his first schooling. His first position was with a hardware firm in Samson soon after the death of his father. With the advent of World War I he joined the Army and received his training at Camp Pike. After the war he continued to sell hardware and mill supplies in Montgomery, Ala., then came to Macon in 1930, where he is now numbered among the most successful young business executives.

At one period in his life he worked in St. Petersburg, Florida, and he is now Vice-President of Mill Supplies, Inc., in Orlando. He takes an active interest in all forward movements for the betterment of Macon through the Chamber of Commerce and his church, the Vineville Methodist, of which he is a member of the Board of Trustees. He is a Director of the First National Bank & Trust Company, and a member of the Macon Rotary Club, the Idle Hour Country Club, the St. Petersburg, Fla., Yacht Club, and Mable Lodge, Masonic Order.

Mr. Farmer's broad spirit of fellowship, which has been a strong factor in his success, is shown in the following story which appeared in a local paper this year:

"C. W. Farmer of the mill supplies company which bears his name, is the benevolent employer one dreams about. He is the so-called capitalist whom the Communists would simply loathe, being exactly the opposite to their idea of the mean old boss who cracks the whip over the poor laboring man. He is the guy with a yacht, who is taking his employees down—all 60 of them, in shifts of about 12 at a time—to enjoy a fishing trip on said yacht, at St. Mark's, Florida. The first batch just got back Sunday after a wonderful three days of sun and sea and fishing and pure, unadulterated masculine company . . . The yacht, which was an Army sea-air rescue boat in a former incarnation, has just been reconditioned and put into shape to sleep 12 people. Its former high speed has been harnessed to pleasure and leisure gear by the simple expedient of putting in a Diesel engine, and the old **Celia C** has become **The Macon,** dedicated solely to the job of making life pleasant for the employees and friends of its generous owner . . ."

On July 20, 1922, in Hartford, Ala., Charley Walton Farmer married Erin Atkinson, daughter of the Rev. C. P. Atkinson and Jessie (Laird) Atkinson. Their only child is June (Mrs. H. E. Causey) who was born in St. Petersburg, Florida, but now resides in Macon. There is one grandchild: Charley Farmer Causey, born January 25, 1949, in Macon.

In connection with the present and the future, it is well to look back into the past for four or five generations. Charley Walton Farmer's father, Henry Martin Farmer, was born in Shorterville, Ala., on August 1, 1858, and his mother, Rosa Adelia (Barnes) Farmer, was born on February 26, 1871 in Byron, Ga. His grandfather, Grace Farmer, was born in 1827 in Shorterville, and married Caroline Gilmore. His great-grandfather, Theophilus Farmer, was born near Eufaula, Ala., in 1806. His maternal grandfather, John W. Barnes, was born on February 1, 1841, and in 1868 married Martha Rebecca Goff, who was born on August 30, 1839. His maternal great-grandfather, Joshua Barnes, born in North Carolina on March 12, 1808, married Amanda L. Bateman, who was born on December 31, 1814. Another maternal great-grandfather was Jacob N. Goff, born on June 17, 1809 and, in 1832, married Eady W. Gilbert, who was born November 20, 1806.



AUGUSTUS CICERO FELTON

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Augustus Cicero Felton—Retired business executive—A quiet, modest man with pleasant manners, as befits one to the manor born; for the name FELTON has been a time-honored one in Macon County and throughout Georgia for scores of years, and the homes of the Feltons have been social centers where gathered the aristocracy for which this section has long been famed.

Augustus C. Felton was born near Montezuma, Georgia, December 28, 1872, son of Judge Augustus Cicero Felton, Sr. (born May 15, 1849, died April 21, 1936) and Cellie (McFarlane) Felton (born in Waverly Hall, Ga., December 23, 1855, died September 10, 1923). His father, A. C. Felton, Sr., was graduated in 1869 from Mercer University when it was located at Penfield in Greene County, just one year and a half before its removal to Macon. For many years A. C. Felton, Sr. was Judge of the Court of Ordinary, Macon County. Other children besides A. C. Felton are Judge Jule Felton of Montezuma, of the Macon County Court, Love Felton of Ideal, Georgia and Myrtie (Mrs. F. E. Adams of Milledgeville, Georgia). His grandparents were Shadrack R. Felton, who settled in Macon County near Montezuma and Lavinia (Young) Felton and owned land all the way to the Flint River, including the site of Montezuma. His uncle, William Felton, settled near Marshallville, and was the father of Monroe Felton (whose children, Judge William H. Felton and Mrs. E. J. (Ned) Willingham resided in Macon, Ga.) and of Hamilton Felton (whose daughter was Mrs. Marshall J. Hatcher of Macon). The Feltons in this section were descended from A. C. Felton's great grandfather, Fisher W. Felton of Gates County, North Carolina.

Augustus Cicero Felton was graduated from Gordon Institute, Barnesville Georgia in 1889. His interests early centered in lumber, and in 1899 he became Vice-President of the Massee & Felton Lumber Company, Macon, which office he held until 1912. In connection with his lumber business, Mr. Felton built and operated successfully as President the Nashville & Sparks Railroad Company and the Pelham & Havana Railroad Company, both in South Georgia's timber belt.

It was in 1913 that Mr. Felton embarked in a new field of endeavor as President of the Nye Odorless Crematory Company. Under his wise and able management, four hundred plants were installed from Canada to Key West, Florida and from ocean to ocean. He retired from the active management in 1947, and since then has disposed of his interest in pecan groves near Macon.

Mr. Felton is an active member of Mulberry Street Methodist Church, and a member of the Macon Rotary Club since 1915. As for his hobbies, he says: "My hobby is to avoid hobbies".

On June 30, 1896, Augustus Cicero Felton married Harriett Dawkins Cleveland of Wartrace, Tennessee, daughter of Thomas Stone and Annie (Wright) Cleveland. Their children are: Elizabeth Harper Felton (who married Charles Lawrence Andrews on September 2, 1924, and resides in Memphis, Tennessee), and Ruth McFarlane Felton (who married Andrew Bradly Hallum on November 16, 1926, and resides in Dayton, Ohio). Their grandchildren are: Augustus Felton Andrews, Harriett Cleveland Andrews and Martha Andrews; Augustus Felton Hallum, Joy Cleveland Hallum and Andrew B. Hallum, Jr.



WILLIAM ARTHUR FICKLING

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WILLIAM ARTHUR FICKLING—Realtor. No young man of this generation has been more enterprising in furthering the growth and development of Macon, his interests ranging through real estate, Boy Scouts Council, politics, church, Masonry, mills, sports. His birthplace was Butler, Taylor County, Georgia. He is the only son of Dr. G. W. Fickling of Taylor County (born 1874) and Lucy (Wilson) Fickling of Schley County, both of whom are living in Reynolds, Ga.

His early education was obtained in Reynolds, where he was graduated with honors from the Reynolds High School; attended Emory University Academy at Oxford, Ga., and completed a pre-med course at Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., in 1922, at the age of nineteen. At college he was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. After leaving college he returned to Reynolds and taught mathematics in the High School for a year, then served as cost accountant with the W. S. Dickey Clay Manufacturing Co. for two years.

When twenty-two years of age William Fickling decided to cast his lot with Macon, and entered the firm of Washington Dessau, Realty and Insurance, where he remained eleven years. In August, 1937, he organized a real estate and insurance business of his own, the Fickling Realty Company. For a short while R. A. Tharpe was associated with him under the firm name of Fickling & Tharpe. On January 1, 1939, the firm became Fickling & Walker, Inc., when he formed a partnership with Sanders Walker, a young man of outstanding business sagacity. For ten years this firm has showed rapid growth, and the development of large areas of woodland into inviting residential sections around Macon has been due to their careful planning and far-seeing vision.

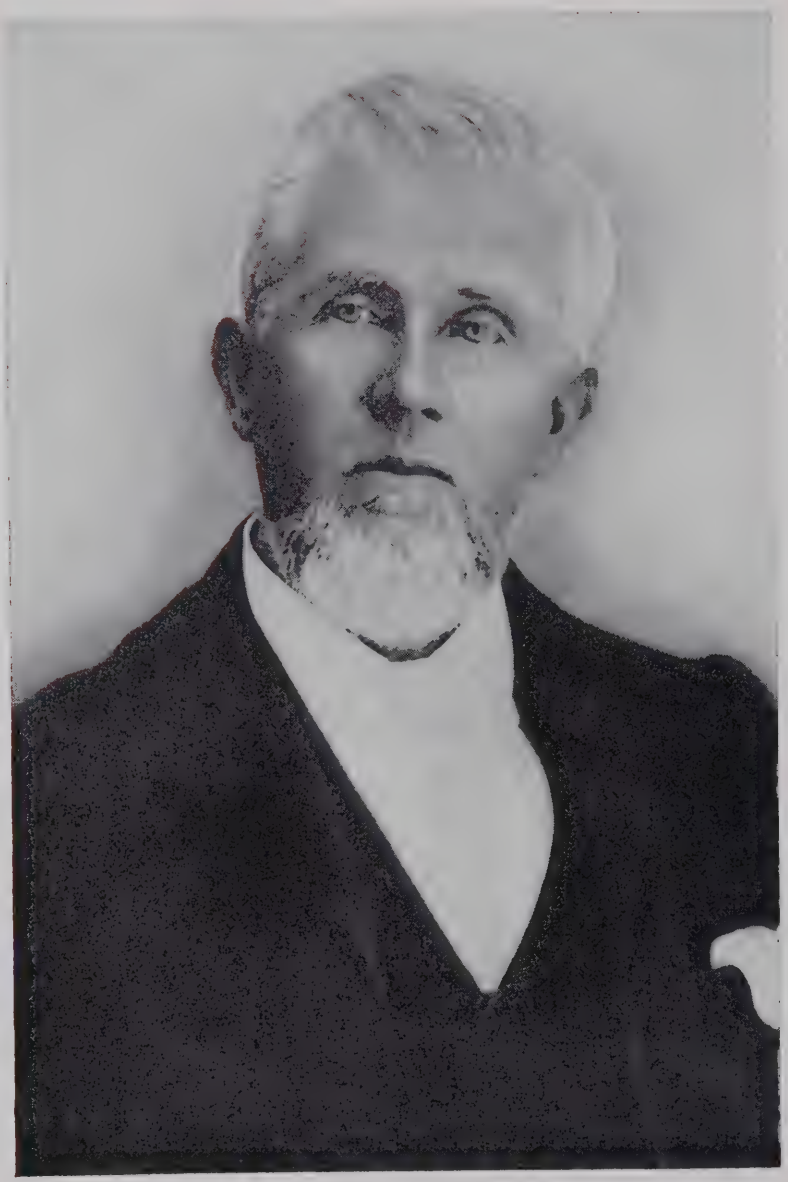
Mr. Fickling has showed marked administrative ability as evidenced by the fact that he is now the President of the following: City Construction Company, Robertson-Walker, Inc., Brookwood Apartments, Inc., Heard Brothers, Inc., the Macon Baseball Company, Inc., Georgia State Fair Association, twice President of the Macon Board of Realtors, and President of the Macon Chamber of Commerce. He was one of the incorporators and the first president of the Macon Area Development Commission, and is now serving a second term as President.

He is at present serving as Vice-President of Fickling & Walker, Inc., Macon Hosiery Mills, Inc., Southern Food Service, Inc., Twin Pines Apartments, Inc., Georgia Homes, Inc., The Housing Supply Company, and Chamber of Commerce. He is a partner in the firm of Southern Advertising Agency and the Fickling & Walker Agency. He is a Director of the Kiwanis Club of Macon, the Inter-Civic Club, the South Atlantic Baseball League, Tricon Minerals, Inc., and a former director of the Georgia Association of Real Estate Boards.

Mr. Fickling is a member of the Washington Committee National Association of Real Estate Boards, the Georgia State Chamber of Commerce, the Macon Board of Realtors, the Bibb County Democratic Committee and the Central Georgia Council of Boy Scouts of America. He is a steward in Mulberry Street Methodist Church where he has had his membership since 1925. He is a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission recently created by the Mayor and Council for future planning of the city.

For recreation, Mr. Fickling takes part in the activities of the Idle Hour Country Club, Elks Club and the Macon Touchdown Club. He is a Mason, being a Shriner (Al Sihah Temple), a member of Macon Lodge No. 5 F.&A.M., Constantine Chapter No. 4 R.A.M., and St. Omer Commandery No. 2 Knights Templar. His grandfather was a Mason, and the Fickling Lodge in Butler, Ga., is named for him.

On July 10, 1927, William Arthur Fickling married Claudia Foster, daughter of William P. and Virginia (Darden) Foster, in Macon, Ga. Her mother was from Suffolk, Virginia. They have two children: William Arthur Fickling, Jr., and Virginia Darden Fickling, both born in Macon.



CHRISTOPHER DeSWAN FINDLAY

CHRISTOPHER DeSWAN FINDLAY

CHISTOPHER DeSWAN FINDLAY (1834-1912)—owner and operator of Findlay Iron Works. Seventy-six years of his life were spent in Macon, his parents, Robert and Mary Hadley (DeSwan) Findlay, removing to Macon from Philadelphia when Christopher was two years of age. Robert Findlay was born in Waterleith, Edenborough, Scotland, on January 17, 1808, and died in Macon, Georgia, November 30, 1859. Mary Hadley DeSwan was of Dutch parentage and was born in Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa., March 28, 1817, and died in Macon on February 9, 1881. Their children were: Christopher D., Robert B., Charles S., James N., George W., Arthur P., Martha A. (Mrs. Charles Simms) and Mary (Mrs. Carson Cox).

Soon after arriving in Macon, Robert Findlay was put in charge of the steam machinery for the new railroad to be built from Macon to Forsyth, called the Monroe Railroad (now a part of the Central of Georgia system). On October 9, 1938, the first rail was laid and on the 22nd, the first locomotive was put in operation by Master Machinist Robert Findlay, and was given a trial run of five miles. The name given the locomotive was "Ocmulgee". The first passenger car was placed on the road on December 3. The track was completed to Forsyth on December 9 and on the following day, December 10, 1838, the first train ran from Macon to Forsyth, drawn by the locomotive, "Ocmulgee". Robert Findlay was publicly congratulated by the president of the Monroe Railroad and Banking Company, Lewis L. Griffin.

In 1839 Robert Findlay and his partners bought a lot on the corner of Fourth Street (now Broadway) and Walnut, where they started a small plant for making castings, but Robert Findlay soon bought the other two-thirds interest. He continued to add to this plant until, in 1850, he purchased the greater part of a city block, on which he erected the large iron foundry which bore his name for generations, on Oglethorpe, Third and Hawthorne Streets. He continued to add to his holdings in this section of the city until they covered several blocks. Robert Findlay was awarded a silver cup by the S.C.A.S. and Mechanical Institute of Georgia on October 19, 1852, for the best passenger car. In 1853 Robert Findlay bought two lots from the City of Macon on the north corner of Second and Oak Streets. Here he built the mansion house that stands there today, now owned by the Y.W.C.A. The property is surrounded on two sides by a superb cast-iron fence, with the posts embedded in granite blocks. This fence was made at Findlay's Iron Works. Ten years after his death his administrator sold the property to George B. Turpin.

Upon the death of Robert Findlay on November 30, 1859, two of his sons, Christopher DeSwan Findlay and James N. Findlay took over the operation of Findlay Iron Works. This large plant was commandeered by the Confederate States Government in May, 1862, when the Arsenal at Savannah, under the supervision of Lieut. Col. Richard M. Cuyler, was removed to Macon. Here were manufactured and stored arms and military equipment of all kinds, especially the brass 12-pounder Napoleon guns, "the pride of the army". Brass fenders, doorknobs, andirons, candlesticks, etc., were donated for the brass cannon: even the church bells were taken down and molded into cannon.

Christopher D. Findlay had joined the Macon Guards in 1861 and went on duty at Tybee Island. James N. Findlay, his partner, joined the Macon Light Artillery under Captains C. W. Slaton and H. N. Ellis. He survived the war but died in 1866. His brother, George W., was also in the Macon Light Artillery. The other brothers, Robert B. and Charles S., were in the Confederate Army. On the reorganization of the army for the duration, Christopher Findlay became a member of the 8th Georgia Regiment, formed in Richmond, Va., under the gallant Col. Francis S. Bartow. Later he was assigned to Capt. Leroy Napier's Artillery, and later to the staff of General Paul Harrison in Georgia. His next assignment was to the Arsenal at Macon, his foundry, which was under the control of the Confederate government. While in Macon he was detailed to organize a battalion of boys for provost duty, called Major Findlay's Battalion. This became a part of the 5th Georgia Reserves, Major Findlay becoming Lieutenant Colonel. When Macon was attacked on July 30, 1864, by General Stoneman, Lt. Col. Christopher Findlay and his colonel, J. B. Cumming, were in command of the 5th Georgia Reserves. After the close of the war the Federal Government continued in control of the iron foundry, and it was not until 1870 that Christopher Findlay regained possession.

Christopher Findlay was prominently identified with civic affairs in Macon. He was an alderman and chairman of the City Council under Mayor Henry Horne, 1894-95. It is interesting to note that C. D. Findlay was one of the two chairmen ever known in the annals of the city administration. In the records of the City Council is the following: "Hon. C. D. Findlay, Chairman. Alderman Pearson offered the following resolution which was put by the Clerk and adopted unanimously by a rising vote:

> WHEREAS, This is the last meeting of this Council over which the Hon. C. D. Findlay will preside by reason of the expiration of his term and the recent action of the Legislature abolishing the office, therefore, Be it resolved that the thanks of this body are deservedly due and are hereby heartily extended to Chairman Findlay for the able, dignified, graceful and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this Council . . . and he carries wtih him the best wishes of his colleagues for his every success and happiness.

On January 23, 1863, Christopher D. Findlay married Ellen Augusta Edwards, daughter of James Corson and Elizabeth Griffing (Hunt) Edwards, of Macon. She was born February 8, 1842, and died on January 29, 1929. Their children were: Mary Isabelle (Mrs. John R. Irwin, deceased), Richard E. resides in Macon, Cuyler W. (deceased), James N. (deceased), Eva Prentiss (deceased), Roxie Ellen, (Mrs. J. A. Porter of New York), Prentiss E., resides in Macon. Names of grandchildren: Christopher Findlay Irwin, Andrew J. Irwin, Nelle Irwin (Mrs. P. D. Horkan), Maribelle Irwin (Mrs. J. W. Fitts), Beverly Irwin (Mrs. W. B. Grimes), John R. Irwin, Jr. (deceased), Logan Findlay (deceased), Dixie Rose Findlay, Barbara Findlay (Mrs. Wilfred Brown, deceased), Dan Findlay Porter, Christopher P. Findlay (deceased), Prentiss E. Findlay, Jr., Roxie Christine Findlay (Mrs. John R. Harwell) Osbon Chambers Findlay (deceased), Mary Ellen Findlay, Delma Cowart Findlay and Cuyler Whittle Findlay. Christopher D. Findlay died September 30, 1912.



WALTER JASPER GRACE

WALTER JASPER GRACE

Walter Jasper Grace (1868-1912)—attorney-at-law. After attending the local schools in Hawkinsville, Georgia, where he was born, November 27, 1868, Walter Jasper Grace entered Gordon Institute at Barnesville, Ga.; and studied law at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, where he was graduated with the degree of LL.B. in 1890. Returning to Georgia, he was admitted to the Bar in Eastman but soon began the practice of law in Macon, Georgia. He was in partnership successively with George S. Jones, James L. Anderson, Judge John P. Ross, Robert L. Anderson, then Ryals, Grace & Anderson. At one time he was a member of the firm with Judge C. C. Kibbee of Hawkinsville, and in his early days he read law in the office of Dessau & Bartlett.

This strong, virile young lawyer, fearless, courageous, honest, well-equipped for his profession by hard study and scholarly reading, with a retentive memory and high moral character, soon rose to the top in the Macon Bar Association. He was elected Solicitor -General of the Macon Circuit of the Superior Court, and held this office at the time of his death on March 31, 1912. He was diligent and conscientious in the performance of his duty, actuated only by the highest and purest motives, and made one of the finest records ever attained by a prosecuting officer in Georgia.

Walter J. Grace was the son of Mathew T. Grace (born Dec. 29, 1834, died Nov. 17, 1870) and Elmina V. (Love) Grace (born April 14, 1838, died Dec. 27, 1873 in Hawkinsville). He was the grandson of Mathew and Martha F. Grace who settled in Houston County, Ga., on removing from North Carolina in 1857.

Well-informed on all current political topics of the day, and with a mind well-stored with the best in literature and history, Mr. Grace was constantly in demand as a public speaker. He was one of a group of young lawyers who organized the Young Men's Democratic Club of Bibb County in 1893 against the encroachment of a new movement called the Third Party, and to guard against "communism, the overflow of centralization, of nationalism and of monarchy". He had always the courage of his convictions, and no man of his time spoke more fearlessly concerning city politics and graft and tax exemptions, injustice and oppression. Mr. Grace's many commencement addresses were gems of logic, eloquence and erudition. He had a brilliant future before him, but, unfortunately, was cut down in the vigor of his young manhood, dying of pneumonia.

On October 18, 1893, Walter Jasper Grace married Mary Ruth (Ruby) Jones (q.v.). Their children are: Walter J. Grace, Jr., and Martha Ruth Grace (who married George W. Blanton, Jr. on December 28, 1918), both residents of Macon. Walter J. Grace, Jr. has made an enviable place as a lawyer. He was graduated from Mercer University in 1915 with the A.B. degree, also taking law his senior year, and received his LL.B. degree at the University of Georgia in 1916. He was graduated from Yale law school in 1917 with the degree of bachelor of laws. He served in World War I as Lieutenant of Field Artillery; and on February 5, 1919, married Ruth Curtis Squire of New Haven, Connecticut, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Butler Squire. His wife died in Macon, January 14, 1944. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Grace, Jr. are: Ruth Squire Grace (Mrs. Joseph Riley Crump who lives in Houston, Texas. Her children are: David L. Crump, Stephen Walter Crump and John Joseph Crump); Walter J. Grace III, of Houston; Agnes Curtis Grace (Mrs. Wm. E. Krenson of New Orleans, whose only child is W. E. Krenson, Jr.), and Mary Jones Grace (Mrs. J. S. Elliott, whose husband is in the U. S. Army, now in Japan. They have one son, J. Sewell Elliott, Jr., born August 7, 1949).



MRS. WALTER JASPER GRACE

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"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."

MARY RUTH (RUBY) JONES (MRS. WALTER JASPER) GRACE filled a niche in the social and cultural life of Macon attained by few in the almost seven score years covered by Macon's history.

"Comparisons are odorous" (*Much Ado About Nothing*), but in recalling the numberless women who have excelled in various capacities, no one of them seems to have possessed as many attributes in the superlative degree as Ruby Jones (Mrs Walter J.) Grace. To describe her beauty, it would seem fulsome; yet the memory of her tender blue eyes, her flashing smile and snowy teeth, her naturally curling, light brown hair, and her delicate, fresh complexion is ever-present in the mind's eye when her name is recalled. Above average height, she carried herself with regal poise, but with a complete lack of self-consciousness. Her magnetic personality, based on innate sweetness and kindliness, drew to her those from the highest to the humblest, and endeared her to her family and friends. She seemed to lack completely the gentle art of making enemies, but possessed and showed always an animated friendliness and tactfulness that all who knew her will ever remember.

In the cause of right she had the courage of her convictions, making decisions with sound judgment. She was termed "the perfect presiding officer" for she loved justice, order, impartiality and peace, and this coupled with an intelligent and technical knowledge of the science of parliamentary law caused her to be sought after for the presidency of many organizations. Mrs. Walter D. Lamar, long associated with her in organizational work, said of Mrs. Grace: "To a charming personal appearance was conjoined a logical mind, clear and quick appreciation of values, a firmness and fairness in handling differences that sometime arose in organizations over which she presided, a courage in decision and a kindliness in enforcing her rulings that gave confidence and established her in the respect and affection of her co-workers. With amazing rapidity and perfect accuracy, she worked mathematical problems germane to the question before the house and handed out decisions based on these figures. The fairness of her rulings made history, forced the admiration of such as differed, and delighted all who came under her direction."

On her graduation from high school with first honor, she won a scholarship to Wesleyan College where she received the A.B. degree in 1891, also studying vocal and instrumental music, and art. Her sorority at Wesleyan was the Philomathean, later named Phi Mu, Alpha chapter. She did post-graduate work at Edgeworth School better known as Madame LaFabre's, in Baltimore, where she specialized in English, French, German and music.

After one year as a debutante, while teaching that year in the Macon school system, Mary Ruth (Ruby) Jones married the talented young lawyer, Walter Jasper Grace (q.v.) on October 18, 1893, at Mulberry Street Methodist Church. At that time Mr. Grace was the Solicitor of the City Court, and then and always one of the most eloquent members of the Macon Bar. The "pink" wedding was one of the most beautiful in the history of the church, and the names of the attendants is a Macon "Who's Who" of the nineties. The bridesmaids were: Misses Mamey Hatcher, Ida Mangham, Emma Wise, Willie Tinsley, Lila Cabaniss, Dellie Rogers, Ilah Dunlap, Virginia Hopson, Courtney Chestney, Mary Tigner of Columbus; and the matron of honor was Mrs. George Duncan. The groomsmen and ushers were: Messrs. James H. Blount, Jr., Jim McCaw, Stewart Jones, Robert Hodges, Clem Steed, Smith D. Pickett, Ellis Talbot, Dick Jordan, Roland Ellis, Tom B. Slade of Columbus; and Walter D. Lamar, James Budd, Legare Walker, Frank Oliver, Harry Jones, Charles Caldwell. The best man was Will Redding.

Mrs. Grace's brilliant mind found expression in the cultural clubs of her city. She was president of the Current Topics Club; a charter member and officer of the Salon Francais de Macon and Better Films Committee; and an early member of the Macon History Club, becoming a life member in 1934 after a continuous membership of 25 years; an active member of the Georgia Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage vs. the Susan B. Anthony amendment; treasurer of the Macon Historical Society; member of the Macon Woman's Club and of the Dixie Highway Auxiliary. After Mr. and Mrs. Grace built a home in Vineville, they transferred their membership from Mulberry Street Church to the Vineville Methodist Church, where she was active in the Missionary Society and other church organizations. She served as alumnae trustee of Wesleyan College, and was president of the National Wesleyan Alumnae Association. Mrs. Grace traveled extensively in England, Scotland, on the continent, and in this country.

The patriotic organizations claimed the major portion of her services with their historical, educational and benevolent appeal. She was chairman of the Macon Town Committee of the Colonial Dames of America, becoming a member in 1922 on the records of William Pynchon, Josiah Jones, Henry Smith and Deacon Simon Stone, of Massachusetts; and Richard Lord of Connecticut. She was a charter member of the Nathaniel Macon Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, joining in 1904, her Revolutionary War ancestor being Capt. Jacob Rumph. But probably her keenest interest was the United Daughters of the Confederacy, which she joined in May, 1905, on the record of her father, Capt. George S. Jones, Co. B, 2nd Georgia Battalion, C.S.A. She served as president of the Sidney Lanier Chapter, UDC, Macon, 1913-1919. During World War I her Chapter did more Red Cross work than any Chapter in the State. It was during her administration that the Chapter sponsored The Kirmess, in 1915 and again in 1917, with Mrs. Grace as chairman of the Executive Committee. A sufficient sum was realized to establish a perpetual Loan Scholarship Fund to help educate descendants of Confederate veterans. Mrs. Grace was made chairman of this Fund, which required a personal investigation of all applications, the collecting and re-investment of all payments. She held this chairmanship until her death, June 15, 1940; and during all this time, not one of the Fund's numerous loans ever failed of collection and repayment in full. In October, 1923, she was elected president of Georgia Division, UDC, and served two years, having served as 2nd vice-president, 1919-23. While not a dramatic orator, she was a gifted speaker and was at ease on any platform. Mrs. Grace was a gracious hostess, her home throughout the years being the scene of many charming entertainments.

Ruby (Jones) Grace was born in Rockdale County, Ga., Aug. 7, 1873, daughter of George Salley and Martha Ruth (Carr) Jones, and granddaughter of Donald Bruce and Mary Elvira (Rumph) Jones. Her maternal grandparents were Benjamin and Mary Elizabeth (Henderson) Carr, of Covington, Ga. She survived her husband, who died March 31, 1911; and they had two children, both of whom survived her, Walter Jasper Grace, Jr., and Martha Ruth Grace (Mrs. George W.) Blanton.



COLONEL ISAAC HARDEMAN

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Colonel Isaac Hardeman (1834-1914)—soldier, lawyer; one of the few lawyers whose title of "colonel" was earned, as he was a lieutenant colonel in the Confederate Army.

Born at the old Hardeman homeplace, "Sleepy Hollow", August 29, 1834, in Jones County, near Clinton, Isaac Hardeman was one of the five sons of Robert Vines Hardeman and Elizabeth C. (Henderson) Hardeman, who were married June 3, 1821, in Jones County. The other sons living to maturity were Robert V., Jr., Thomas (who lived in Louisville, Ga.), John and Frank. Robert V. Hardeman (born April 26, 1800, died May 19, 1871) was one of the outstanding lawyers of Middle Georgia. He was in the House of Representatives from Jones County, 1840-1843; State Senator from the old 25th District, 1845; Judge of the Ocmulgee Circuit, Oct. 1853 - Dec. 1859; was one of the prosecutors of Elijah Barber in the celebrated Jesse L. Bunkley impersonation case, at Clinton. His wife, Elizabeth C. (Henderson) Hardeman, was born March 3, 1804, and died June 16, 1892.

Isaac Hardeman entered the freshman class at the University of Georgia in 1850 and was graduated in 1853 with A.B. degree. He was a member of the Demosthenian Literary Society. Giant minds gathered at the old Court House in Clinton on court days; and it was in this atmosphere that young Hardeman read law in his father's office and was admitted to the bar. Later, he married Marietta Taylor Pitts of Jones County, on November 5, 1856.

Less than two months after war was declared, Isaac Hardeman enlisted in the service of the Confederate States on June 9, 1861, at Clinton, as Orderly Sergeant, Co. B, 12th Ga. Regiment; was promoted successively to First Lieutenant, Captain, Major and Lt. Colonel, 12th Ga.; was captured August 28, 1862, and sent to old Capitol prison in Washington; was paroled, and exchanged in December, and rejoined his command; was captured May 10, 1864, and remained a prisoner of war at Fort Delaware until after the surrender. Col. Hardeman actively participated in many of the great battles of the giant struggle in Virginia. He was the first commander of Camp Macon, United Confederate Veterans, No. 1477, Macon, Ga.

After the war Colonel Hardeman returned to his old home in Jones County and to the practice of law. His wife died on June 18, 1866. On March 5, 1867, he married Mrs. Lucia (Griswold) Conn, widow of Charles A. Conn of Milledgeville, who was killed in the war. She had one son, Charles Giles Conn, who now resides in Georgia. His second wife was the daughter of Giles Humphreys Griswold and Penina Temperance (Newton) Griswold of Griswoldville, Jones County, who were married on Sept. 2, 1841. She was a granddaughter of Samuel Griswold (son of Jeremiah Griswold) and Louisa Forbes (daughter of Elisha Forbes) who were married in Connecticut on April 7, 1813. Samuel Griswold later settled in Clinton, Jones County.

In 1872 Colonel Hardeman moved to Macon, where he became one of Georgia's great civil lawyers. His early partners here included Colonel James H. Blount, for many years a member of Congress, and Judge Thomas J. Simmons, who became Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court. Soon after coming to Macon he formed a partnership with Buford M. Davis, under the firm name of Hardeman & Davis, and while the two original members of this firm died many years ago the firm has continued by direct succession until the present time. Later partners in this firm while Colonel Hardeman was an active member were C. A. Turner, George Salley Jones, who was Colonel Hardeman's son-in-law, Edward P. Johnston, and Bruce C. Jones, a brother of George Salley Jones. Merrel P. Callaway became a member shortly after Colonel Hardeman's retirement (Hardeman, Jones, Callaway & Johnston), but during his life time, and later Orville A. Park took Mr. Callaway's place in the firm, and also his name. A grandson, C. Baxter Jones, came into the firm shortly after Colonel Hardeman's death, he and Bruce C. Jones being present members of the firm of Jones, Jones & Sparks, which is the successor firm to the one formed by Colonel Hardeman almost three quarters of a century ago.

At the age of seventy-five (in 1909) Colonel Hardeman retired from active participation in the affairs of the firm after having practiced law for fifty years. However, his name was retained by his partners until after his death in 1914.

Colonel Hardeman was one of the leading members of the Mulberry Street Methodist Church, and was superintendent of the Sunday School. When the Vineville Methodist Church was organized, he transferred his membership, and for many years was superintendent of the Sunday School. His life was a model for uprightness.

His interest in Wesleyan College developed soon after he settled in Macon, and he was elected a trustee in 1878 and continued as such until his death, which occurred on September 20, 1914. At the time of his death he was chairman of the Board of Trustees and chairman of the Executive Committee. He was also a trustee of the South Georgia Orphans Home.

Colonel Hardeman was elected to the Bibb County Board of Education in November, 1883, but resigned in July 1884. He was a member of Macon Lodge No. 5 F. & A. M.

The children of Isaac and Lucia (Griswold) Hardeman living to maturity were: Roberta Elizabeth (Mrs. George S. Jones, d. 1912), John (d. 1912), Giles Griswold, Lucia Pauline (Mrs. Clarence J. Chappell, d. 1918), Lula, Isaac, Jr., and Frank Logan (d. 1948 in California).



PARKS LEE HAY

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PARKS LEE HAY—President and Chairman of the Board, The Bankers Health and Life Insurance Company of Macon, Georgia.

Parks Lee Hay—a man with a fixed purpose in life, one who has kept his eyes steadfastly on his goal, never directing his interests into other channels or by-paths until that goal was attained. He calls it "a one-track effort", but those who have known him best through the decades call it "fixedness of purpose". He has built his success on the bedrock of honesty, fairness, rockbound security, and on never taking a chance that might involve others. He has given all of his ability to what he terms "a savings account with life".

In 1897 young P. L. Hay settled in Macon, and for fifty-two years has called Macon home. In 1904, with a "shoe-string" capital he established the business that has grown to be one of the most far-reaching enterprises in the South, The Bankers Health and Life Insurance Company. For fourteen years he struggled, devoting all of his time and the best of his thought into making a going concern that reached the needs of the average citizen. At the end of that time he felt that success was within his grasp, and he has enjoyed the tremendous growth and expansion of his business for the past thirty years. In 1940 Mr. Hay built the most perfectly equipped office building in the southeast, the Bankers Insurance Building, the last word in modern architecture. It was designed by W. Elliott Dunwody, Jr., A.I.A., and is the pride of Macon.

Parks Lee Hay was born in Dallas, Paulding County, Georgia, on July 16, 1873, son of Henry Wooten and Fanny Elizabeth (Caldwell) Hay. His father, Henry W. Hay, was born in Coweta County, Ga., on Nov. 29, 1837, and died in Dallas in 1921; married in 1858 Fanny E. Caldwell, born Jan. 23, 1843, daughter of Buford and Sarah Caldwell of Carrollton, Ga. Their children, besides Park Lee, were: John M. (deceased), James Willis, Freeman Andrew, Bejamin Hill, May (Mrs. Cathcart) and J. Byrd. Henry W. Hay was a planter. He volunteered for service in the war for southern independence and served four years. He was a man of sterling character and highest standards of manhood, and was deeply religious.

P. L. Hay's grandfather, James Peyton Hay, Meriwether County, Ga., married Samantha Pearson. He, too, was a planter, and was the eldest son of William Howell Hay who settled in Georgia on a land grant in 1803.

Parks Lee Hay married, first, Elizabeth Underwood, daughter of Dr. George Price Underwood (1846-1896) and Martha E. Helms (1857-1926). She died in 1918. He married, second, Mrs. Maude Saxon Murphy, widow of D. D. Murphy, and daughter of Robert B. Saxon (1845-1912) and Tyree (Martin) Saxon (1855-1932). Their children, all by first wife, are: Mrs. Gertrude Jones, Lucille Hay (Mrs. N. Terrell Weaver), Vivian Hay (Mrs. Halstead T. Anderson), Elizabeth Hay (Mrs. J. W. McCook) and P. L. Hay, Jr. Grandchildren are: Elizabeth Jones (Mrs. Lem Clark), N. Terrell Weaver, Jr., Patricia Weaver (Mrs. Otis Hogan), William Anderson, P. L. Hay III, William Morrill Hay, Sandra Hay, James W. McCook III, Thomas McCook and Virginia McCook.

No man in Macon has traveled more extensively than Mr. Hay, having visited England and the countries of Europe, eastern Canada, Alaska (in 1925 and 1935), Mexico and Cuba. It has been his pleasure to take his family on long motor trips through every state in the Union. In his later years, as a member of the Idle Hour Country Club, golf has been Mr. Hay's chief recreation. He has had little time for politics, although he served on the City Council as Alderman for four years (1913-1917). His community interests have been as chairman of the Community Chest Drive, as member of the Stadium Commission, and as President of the Macon Kiwanis Club (1946-47). He is a 32° Mason and a Shriner.

In 1925 Mr. Hay purchased the palatial residence built in 1855-60 by William B. Johnston, It is said to have been built of Italian materials by Italian workmen, James B. Ayres, architect. It has changed ownership only once.

No account of the life of P. L. Hay would be complete without recognizing the sincerity of his religious convictions. He daily puts into practice the principles of the Christian religion. He is chairman of the Board of Directors, First Church of Christ, Scientist. In 1920 he was chairman of the building committee for erecting the church, a gem of architecture, which was dedicated in 1925.



DANIEL CHURCHILL HORGAN

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Daniel Churchill Horgan (1874-1937)—florist. A man of magnetic personality, with a gift for making and holding friends; with his patrons it was "once a customer, always a friend". The slogan: "Say It With Flowers" had a deeper meaning with Dan Horgan than just a business slogan. His understanding of their place made life richer. It was his way of felicitating one on a birthday or other anniversary, of expressing his sympathy in times of sorrow, of illness or misfortune. He believed firmly in the "baker's dozen", for an order of flowers always arrived with a few extra blossoms. He came to Macon a stranger, unintroduced: yet in a span of a few years he had established himself among the business men of integrity, dependableness, leadership and vision.

Born in Richmond, Virginia, October 27, 1874, Daniel Churchill Horgan was a son of Daniel and Bridget Horgan, both originally from Ireland. There was another son, Patrick Horgan, who resided in Montgomery, Ala. His father owned and operated a private school, where Dan received his early education; later he attended St. Charles College near Baltimore. Later he went to work in the central office of the Singer Sewing Machine Company in Richmond, as a supervisor, with Georgia and South Carolina as his territory. This brought him to Macon, and here, on September 2, 1901, he married Edith Lyle Schatzman, daughter of William H. and Frederica (Pacetti) Schatzman.

When the Plant estate offered for sale in 1905 the Idle Hour Nurseries, several miles west of Macon, they were bought by Mr. Horgan. At that time it was a small concern, with only five green-houses. He built it up to twenty-five green-houses, with forty-five acres, the largest nursery in the South, and one of the most extensive in this country.

He took an active part in florists' organizations, being a member of the Southeastern Association of Florists, the National Society of American Florists, and the Florists Telegraph Delivery Association. Mr. Horgan gained a nation-wide reputation as a florist. At their lovely home and gardens in Rivoli, adjacent to the green-houses, Mr. and Mrs. Horgan entertained many of the leading florists of the country. The house, built by the late Neel Reid, an outstanding Georgia architect, is still occupied by Mrs. Horgan. His flower store, located at 109 Cotton Avenue, Macon, continued under the management of his wife's brother, Carling Schatzman, until his death. Carling Schatzman, Jr., is now general manager.

When the Idle Hour Country Club was established on the old Plant property adjacent to the Idle Hour Nurseries in 1912, Mr. Horgan was one of the promoters; and it was due to him that particular attention was given to developing the fine golf links connected with the club. Golf was his chief hobby and relaxation.

Always interested in civic affairs, he headed membership campaigns for the Chamber of Commerce and the Y.M.C.A., and led in sales in every Liberty Bond Drive in World War I. He contributed generously to these and other civic projects. For many years he served as a member of the Bibb County Road Board. Mr. Horgan was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, and was once grand knight of the local Knights of Columbus. He was several times a director in the Rotary Club of Macon. It was in May, 1935, that the Rotary Club had "Dan Horgan Day". At that meeting one of the members said of him: "This man child, born up there in Richmond, Va., was to be the one to emancipate the flowers from their hiding places in the valleys and on the mountain tops and bring them together in great greenhouses and then distribute them to men, women and children, who, because of his contact with nature's best efforts, were made happier."

At the time of his death, June 17, 1937, another Rotarian said of him: "Dan possibly had faults, like the rest of us, but we never saw them. To us he was the big-hearted, generous, open-handed friend, who by his encouragement lifted us to a higher plane, higher than the level where we usually lived, and there created within us a desire for the finer things that cluster around a man of good will."

His mother died when he was eight years of age. Afterwards, his father studied for the priesthood, and served in the Diocese of Concordia, Kansas, and in San Diego, California, where he died in 1936 at the age of 82. Mr. Horgan went by plane to California for his father's funeral.

At Mr. Horgan's death, the employees, both white and Negro workers, prepared a pall of orchids bordered with lilies of the valley and gardenias, as a tribute to their beloved employer.



BRUCE CARR JONES

BRUCE CARR JONES

Bruce Carr Jones—Attorney at Law. Ninth in descent from Captain Lewes Jones, who came from England to the Colony of Massachusetts in 1635 and settled at Roxbury, was born August 5, 1877, in Rockdale County, Georgia, at the plantation home of his grandfather, Benjamin Franklin Carr. He was a son of Captain George Salley Jones (q. v.) and Martha Ruth (Carr) Jones, of Macon, Georgia.

He attended the public schools in Macon. His father dying when he was a mere lad, he began working after school when he was fourteen, his various jobs giving him valuable experience along many lines. He studied law at Mercer University for one year (1896-1897).

In 1899 Mr. Jones went to Washington, D. C., with the U. S. Geological Survey, and there attended Columbia Law School at night. In the following year he went to Indian Territory where for five and one-half years he was with the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, engaged in the work of allotting to the individual members of the several Indian nations occupying that territory, the lands which had been held in common. His work there was almost entirely with the Cherokee Indians; and for the last several years of his sojourn in Indian Territory he was in charge of this work among the Cherokees, including the making up of tribal rolls as well as the allotment of lands. Mr. Jones was admitted to the Bar in Indian Territory in 1905 but did not actively practice there.

In 1906 Mr. Jones returned to Macon and entered the practice of law as a member of the firm of Hardeman & Jones (Isaac Hardeman, George S. Jones, E. P. Johnston and Bruce C. Jones), a firm established in Macon in 1872 as Hardeman & Blount. His entire career as a lawyer has been as a member of that firm, now Jones, Jones & Sparks, of which he is the senior member. Over thirty years of his law practice were in partnership with the late George S. Jones, Jr., and E. P. Johnston. Mr. Jones is one of the outstanding corporation lawyers of Georgia, specializing also in real estate and probate law. He is a member of the American, Georgia, and Macon Bar Associations.

It is rare that the hobby of one's childhood remains through college and later years, but the love of outdoor athletics has clung to Bruce Jones all of his life. He was an outstanding baseball player and while attending Mercer Law School was a member of the first Mercer baseball team to play a regular inter-collegiate schedule.

Mr. Jones has always taken an active part in the business and civic life of Macon. In 1926 he was one of the organizers of the Macon Building and Loan Association, now the Federal Savings and Loan Association, of which he is vice-president, and which he has served continuously as director and attorney. For more than fifty years he has been a member of the Macon Lodge of Elks, of which he is a Past Exalted Ruler, and was also an early state president of the Georgia State Association of Elks. He is a Mason (Knight Templar and 32nd Degree). The beautiful Shrine Temple at the corner of Cotton Avenue and Poplar Street was begun, completed and dedicated while he was Potentate of Al Sihah Temple.

He is a 20-Year Scouter, a past president of the Central Georgia Council of Boy Scouts of America and holds the Silver Beaver Award. His church affiliation for more than sixty years has been with Mulberry Street Methodist Church, and he has been a sustaining member of Macon Y.M.C.A. practically all of his adult life. He is a member of the Rotary Club and the Macon Boat Club, outboard motoring being one of his chief hobbies.

Mr. Jones is generous to the point of personal inconvenience. Loyalty is perhaps his strongest attribute. Frankness is another marked characteristic, for he is fearless and outspoken in all his dealings. An omnivorous reader, he has a retentive memory and thus has a rich store of knowledge and reminiscence.

On January 5, 1905, Bruce Carr Jones married at Tahlequah, Indian Territory, Mabel Frances Maxwell, daughter of Charles Edward Maxwell, of Liberty, Illinois, and Lelia Eleanor (Samsel) Maxwell. An only child, Lelia Ruth Jones, married Harry Nelson Horton, and with her husband and two children, Harry N. Horton, Jr., and Lelia Bruce Horton, resides in Miami, Florida.



GEORGE SALLEY JONES

GEORGE SALLEY JONES

George Salley Jones (1828-1888)—Wholesale Grocery and Commission Merchant. With the not uncommon name of Jones, it is truly remarkable that the subject of this sketch could trace every generation of his family without a break in the dates of birth, death and marriage from the immigrant Captain Lewes Jones who came to Roxbury, Massachusetts, in the "good ship Amitie" in 1635. Later descendants settled in Connecticut and from there removed to Orangeburg District, South Carolina. In each generation they were men of staunch church affiliations, being deacons and "ruling elders". Hence it was heredity that wove into the warp-and-woof of the characters of the Joneses the rock-bound integrity, the honesty, the law-abiding instincts for which they were all so well known.

Son of Donald Bruce and Mary Elvira (Rumph) Jones, George Jones was born December 22, 1828, in Orangeburg District, South Carolina. When he was nine years of age the family removed to Georgia, settling in Houston County, near the Macon County line.

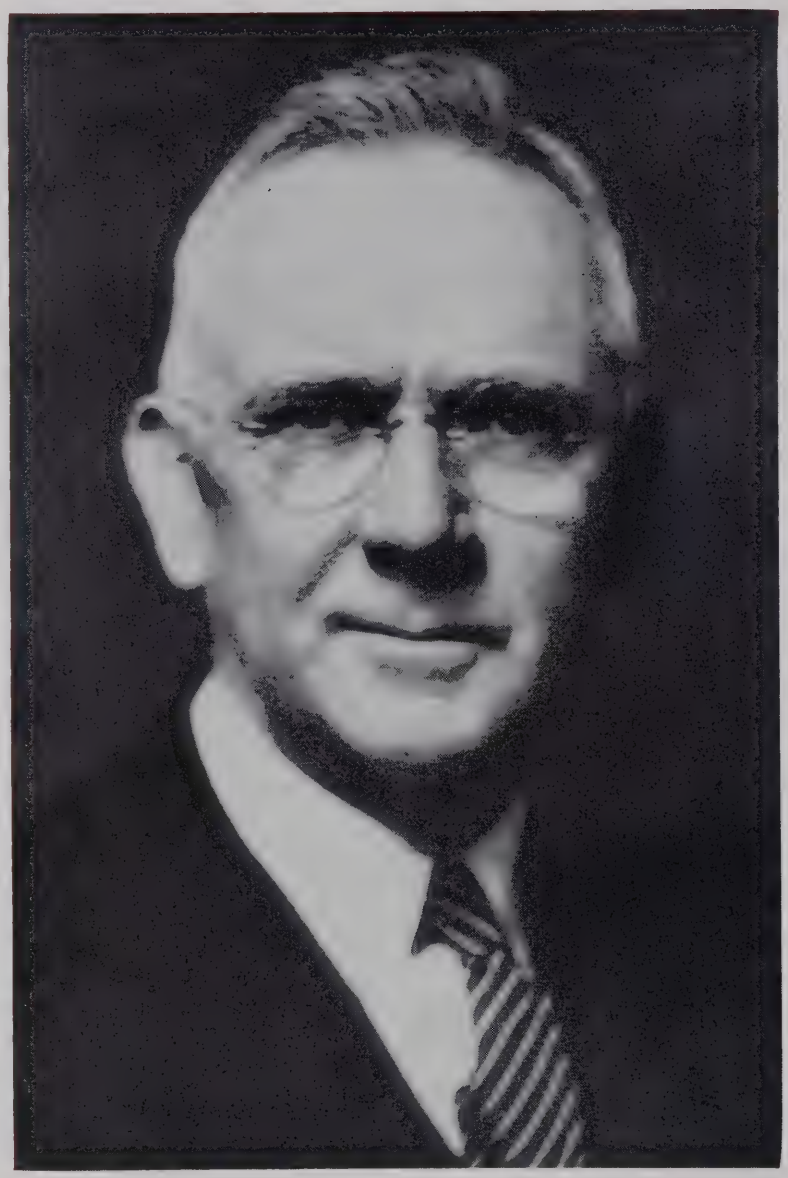
George S. Jones received his education in the private schools of that day. For a short while he taught in Dooly County, but in his early manhood came to Macon and entered the mercantile business, in which he continued throughout his life. His firms of Jones & Baxter, Jones & McCalla, and George S. Jones & Company wholesale grocers and commission merchants, were prominent in the business life of the City and Central Georgia from the close of the War Between the States until his death. His place of business was at the northwest corner of Cherry Street and Cotton Avenue.

On April 11, 1861, the Macon Volunteers and the Floyd Rifles tendered their services to Governor Joseph E. Brown, and on April 19th these companies received orders to be ready to leave for Fort Norfolk, Virginia. They left on April 20th and were the first foreign troops to set foot on the soil of Virginia in defense of the invasion of that state. Soon after their arrival in Virginia, these companies, with the Spalding Grays and the City Light Guards (Columbus) were formed into the Second Independent Battalion of Georgia Volunteers. Captain Thomas Hardeman, Jr., of the Floyd Rifles was elected major. His order book shows that George S. Jones had been commissioned a second lieutenant in the Macon Volunteers on February 25, 1860, and another entry reads: "MACON VOLUNTEERS. George S. Jones, 2nd Lieut.—age 32—enrolled April 20—in Macon—by Capt. R. A. Smith—was mustered into service May 4—at Fort Norfolk—by E. Bradford." After the death of Capt. Robert A. Smith (who was killed in the Seven Days' fighting around Richmond), George S. Jones was promoted to the captaincy of Company D (Macon Volunteers), and commanded that company throughout the war as a part of the Army of Northern Virginia, and with that army under Generals Joseph E. Johnston, Beauregard, and, later, Robert E. Lee, participated in that Army's battles and campaigns from Manassas to Appomattox. He was severely wounded three times—once at Gettysburg where he was captured and confined on Johnson's Island in Lake Erie until exchanged, when he rejoined his command.

After the war the Macon Volunteers were reorganized on April 23, 1872, with George S. Jones as captain; and when the Second Battalion was reorganized, Captain Jones was elected to command it as lieutenant colonel. He never took the oath of allegiance and hence never voted nor held political office after the war; however, he was never heard to speak with bitterness of the result of the war, or of the Union.

Captain Jones was one of the state commissioners who for three years (1875-1878) operated for the State the Macon & Brunswick Railroad, now the Southern Railroad from Macon to Brunswick. For a long number of years he was a director of the Central of Georgia Railroad & Banking Company of Georgia, retiring because of his health shortly before his death.

Of fine physique and handsome of face, George S. Jones was prominent in the social life of Macon where his winning personality and cultivated mind made him a welcome addition. On November 3, 1868, he married Martha Ruth Carr, daughter of Judge Benjamin Franklin Carr and Mary Elizabeth (Henderson) Carr of Covington, Ga. George S. Jones died May 30, 1888, and his wife, on Nov. 28, 1929. Both are buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Macon. Their children were: George Salley Jones, Jr. (q. v.), Mary Ruth (Ruby) Jones (Mrs. Walter J. Grace—q. v.), Baxter Jones, Bruce Carr Jones (q. v.), Sidney J. Jones, Robert Henderson Jones and Ethel Louise Jones (Mrs. Dexter Edge).



GEORGE SALLEY JONES, JR.

GEORGE SALLEY JONES, JR.

George Salley Jones (Junior) (1871-1938) Attorney at Law. Second of that name and ninth in descent from Captain Lewes Jones of Roxbury, Massachusetts, (1635) he was born in Macon, Georgia, September 12, 1871, son of Captain George Salley Jones (q. v.) and Martha Ruth (Carr) Jones. He received his grammar school and high school education at what was then known as Alexander Free School on Second Street, whence he was graduated with honors at the age of thirteen, and entered Mercer University as a sophomore shortly before his fourteenth year. Because of his father's declining health he left Mercer in his senior year to assist his father in his wholesale grocery and commission business. After his father's death and after a brief experience in the mercantile business, he studied law at night at the Mercer Law School and was admitted to the Bar in 1893. He was briefly in partnership with John R. L. Smith, with Walter J. Grace, and then practiced alone until 1900 when he became a member of the firm of Hardeman, Davis, Turner & Jones (Isaac Hardeman, Buford M. Davis, C. A. Turner and George S. Jones), a firm established in Macon in 1872 as Hardeman & Blount, and with which firm, with changes in partnership, personnel and firm name, he continued until his death in 1938. At that time the firm name was Jones, Russell & Sparks (George S. Jones, Bruce C. Jones, C. Baxter Jones, Scott Russell and A. O. B. Suarks).

Georgia Jones enjoyed a state-wide reputation as a lawyer of exceptional force and ability, and was a leading lawyer at the Macon Bar and in the State of Georgia. He early recognized the importance of the Federal Bankruptcy Law of 1898 and was for many years the leading bankruptcy lawyer of this section of the State. Similarly in 1913, with the passage of the first federal law imposing a tax on individual and corporate incomes, he recognized the importance of this law on the business structure of the country; and, with a keen knowledge of accountancy and profound ability as a lawyer, he became a recognized leader of the Bar on income tax and the numerous Federal laws affecting business which have followed. His extensive practice included representation of leading banks, industrial and mercantile establishments.

He was for many years a director and chairman of the board of the Fourth National Bank, but severed his connection with that bank when differences of opinion as to management arose several years before the bank's failure. He was active in the Continental Bank & Trust Company, entering the general banking field, and was a director of that institution, later having an active part in the merger of the Continental Bank & Trust Company and the Macon National Bank under the name of the First National Bank & Trust Company, and continued with the latter bank as a director until his death.

In 1920 George Jones went to New York as one of the senior vice presidents of the Guaranty Trust Company, but finding the practice of law more to his liking returned to Macon and his law practice after less than a year.

A man of active and energetic mind and body, George S. Jones throughout his lifetime took an active part not only in the practice of law but in the business, civic and religious life of the community. A member of Mulberry Street Methodist Church from childhood, he transferred his membership to Vineville Methodist Church in 1896 where he became a steward, Chairman of the Board of Stewards, a member of the Board of Trustees, Superintendent of the Sunday School, and teacher of the Men's Bible Class which now bears the name of George S. Jones Bible Class. He was one of the promoters of the building of the beautiful church edifice on Vineville Avenue and contributed liberally towards its cost. He was the leader in his church of the unsuccessful opposition in 1924 to the unification of the Southern and the Northern Methodist Churches, and never became reconciled to this unification shortly before his death in 1938.

He was for many years one of the Board of Directors of the Macon Y.M.C.A., and was chairman of the building committee for the present building; one of the trustees of the Georgia State Academy for the Blind; a trustee for the Methodist Orphanage in Macon, and for many years, and until shortly before his death, was chairman of the local Board of Trustees. At various times he was chairman of the Macon Community Chest, of sales of bonds during World War I, and in every way gave liberally of his time and ability to civic enterprises. He was independent in politics, in 1928 espousing the cause of Herbert Hoover and was one of the Hoover electors in the presidential election of that year. Although active in politics at various times, he never sought office.

On November 5, 1890, George Salley Jones (Junior) married Roberta Elizabeth Hardeman, daughter of Colonel Isaac Hardeman, and of that marriage there were nine children, all of whom survive: George S. Jones III, Isaac Hardeman Jones, Charles Baxter Jones, Bascom Sidney Jones, Giles Paul Jones, Elizabeth Henderson (Jones) Williamson, Robert Bruce Jones, Roberta Lois (Jones) Gardner, and Richard Lord Jones.

After the death of his first wife, he married on August 20, 1925, Alee Horton, who survives him.



MARY CALLAWAY (MRS. FRANK F.) JONES

MARY CALLAWAY (MRS. FRANK F.) JONES

MARY (CALLAWAY) JONES fulfills the definition of a historian, one versed in history, being accurate with dates, painstaking in research, meticulous in recording facts. Mrs. Jones's chief work is with the patriotic organizations, the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America.

During the period in which Mrs. Jones served the Sidney Lanier Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy Macon, as Historian (1931-1940) she placed 17 volumes of history (Confederate and Chapter) in the U.D.C. rooms at Rhodes Memorial, Atlanta, Ga., in the Department of Archives and History. Each of these volumes has an index which adds greatly to their value. In addition to Confederate letters, diaries, and papers written by Chapter members, Mrs. Jones contributed sketches of deceased Confederate veterans from 1931 to 1935, reminiscences of all living Confederate veterans in Macon, Bibb and Jones counties, and a reminiscence of Mrs. James H. Blount, a bride of 1861. These reminiscences she obtained from personal interviews. Included in these volumes was a list of historic spots located for marking in Macon and Bibb County, a roster of the Macon Volunteers and Floyd Rifles, a roster of commissioned officers of the Second Ga. Battalion, and a roster of all companies from Bibb County, 1861-1865.

During her term of office the Chapter had rebound and reconditioned two volumes of *The Macon (Ga.) Telegraph*, 1862 and 1864, which are in Washington Memorial Library. This material is invaluable to those who search for light in the events and the manners and customs of the times during the War Between the States. Mrs. Jones was instrumental in having 14 copies, two volumes each, of *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government* by Jefferson Davis placed in the libraries and schools and colleges of Macon as well as in private libraries; also seven framed prints of Sidney Lanier were presented to libraries of the Macon schools. Five articles of Confederate history were sent to the *Filing and Lending Bureau*, General Committee, U.D.C.

She wrote the Chapter history from Chapter minutes, files of newspapers, Division and General minutes from its organization in January, 1896, to September, 1938. Mrs. Jones won the Minnie Lewis Rountree prize in 1937 and in 1939 for "the best history material sent by a Chapter Historian to the Division Historian". She compiled eleven volumes of scrapbooks on Sidney Lanier, which were presented to the Washington Memorial Library.

In 1938 Mrs. Jones was elected State Historian, U.D.C. While serving her two-year term, she won for Georgia the General prize, the *"Raines Banner"* for the best historical work along all lines, for Divisions having more than 2,000 members.

She planned for the erection and wrote the inscriptions for the following bronze markers of state-wide interest: the battleground of the attack on Macon by General Stoneman, July 30, 1864, and by General Kilpatrick on Nov. 20, 1864; battleground of the fight where General Stoneman was captured near Sunshine Church in Jones County, July 31—Aug. 1, 1864; Confederate Arsenal (Findlay's Foundry) in Macon where cannon, etc., were made for the Confederate army; residence of Captain J. M. Johnston, in Macon, where Jefferson Davis, his wife, and two daughters, Mrs. Hayes and Winnie, were house guests, October 24 to November 3, 1887. The first and second markers won for her the Charles Haden cup for marking the most historic spots in the State in 1941. These two markers were presented by the Chapter to the State of Georgia through the Department of Resources

In 1936, Mrs. Jones won the Thomas D. Osborne cup, General UDC prize, for a sketch of Mrs. Isaac Winship, pioneer citizen of Macon, and in 1939 she won this cup for the best collection of incidents of heroism of Southern men and women during the War Between the States. She served as Historian-General, UDC, 1943-1946, during which time she set a new high for historical work in UDC circles.

Mrs. Jones is a member of the Georgia Society, the Colonial Dames of America. In the Colonial Dames, she has served on the Board of Managers, Georgia Society, 1937-1940, as State Chairman of Historic Activities, 1940-1942, as a member of the National Historic Activities Committee, 1941-1948, until appointed National Chairman in December, 1948. She has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Fort Frederica Association Inc., since its formation in 1941.

She has published the following pamphlets: Mercer at Penfield (1933); Some of the Historic Homes of the Confederacy Period in Macon (Oct. 1937); Some of Macon's Heritage in Architecture (May, 1939); Sidney Lanier; Chronological Record of Authenticated Facts (May, 1940), and contributed numerous articles to newspapers.

In addition to her historical work, Mrs. Jones has been manager of a 1500-acre plantation, which has been in her family since 1855. She is a member of the President's Council Mercer University (since its organization), and a member of the Mercer Auxiliary. She was formerly a member of the Associated Charities, forerunner of the Society for Organized Service (later the Community Chest), and of the Macon Art Association. She attended Wesleyan College, Macon, class of 1898, and a member of the Phi Mu sorority.

With pride in her achievements, with complete confidence in her accuracy, with faith in her ability to perform whatever she undertakes, greater honors are yet in store for Mary Callaway Jones.

Alice Burden (Mrs. I. L.) Domingos
Eugenia Dorothy Blount (Mrs. Walter D.) Lamar



WILLIAM OSCAR KINNEY

WILLIAM OSCAR KINNEY

WILLIAM OSCAR KINNEY (1870-1948)—Cotton Factor, Wholesale Grocer. One is more often associated in the minds of the public with his civic activities than with one's business affiliations. So it was that Oscar Kinney was known best as a Bibb County Commissioner serving as chairman for twelve of the sixteen years of his connection. However, during a period of tremendous growth and prosperity in the county, his vocation was that of cotton factor, and for twenty years he was a partner in the firm of B. Terry Adams and Company. When Mr. Adams retired in 1916, Mr. Kinney organized and operated the W. O. Kinney Company, adding fertilizers and farmers' supplies to his merchandise. He managed this successful business for 28 years, retiring in 1944. He also operated farms in Wilkinson County, Grovania and near Fort Valley from which he shipped peaches and watermelons to distant markets.

Mr. Kinney's civic interests were varied, giving much of his time to the Hospital Commission and to the Macon Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Idle Hour Club, the Gridiron Fishing Club, a former member of the Macon Rotary Club, and a Director of the old Bibb National Bank. His church membership was with the First Baptist. His military affiliation was with the Macon Hussars, now no longer a separate military unit. When Macon celebrated its centennial in 1923, Mr. Kinney was chosen to reign as "King Cotton". For several years before his death, Mr. Kinney was Tax Assessor for Bibb County, and served on the Board of Riverside Cemetery.

William Oscar Kinney was born in Wilkinson County, Georgia, August 8, 1870, son of James William Kinney (born Aug. 15, 1821) and Epsie Jane (Mackey) Kinney (born Feb. 26, 1831). He attended Talmadge Institute in Irwinton, Georgia, and the University of Kentucky. On December 4, 1895, he married, at Mulberry Street Methodist Church, Clara Virginia Guerry, daughter of Judge Dupont Guerry and Fanny (Davenport) Guerry. For many years Judge Guerry was President of Wesleyan College, Macon. Her mother was a member of a prominent family in Americus, Georgia, daughter of Walter T. and Mary Elizabeth (Frederick) Davenport.

Mrs. Kinney was the first woman ever to be elected to the City Council of Macon, serving six years (1927-1933) on the Aldermanic Board, during the administrations of Luther Williams and Glenn Toole. Of a pioneering spirit, she ventured out on the Macon streets, driving a large automobile, one of the first seen in Macon. This tiny woman soon became an expert driver.

Keenly interested in civic affairs, she was President of the Macon Chamber of Commerce Auxiliary, and Vice-Chairman of Bibb County Board of Health. The humane work of the Associated Charities, later the Society for Organized Service, engaged her attention, as she was deeply concerned with human welfare and everything for the betterment of Macon and her fellow man. Mrs. Kinney's participation in city politics led to her being elected a delegate to a National Democratic Convention held in Houston, Texas, and twice in Chicago.

With her sons actively engaged in World War I, she organized and was first president of Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, American Legion Auxiliary and the Rainbow Division Auxiliary. She later became National President of the Rainbow Division Auxiliary. She sponsored the erection of the monument in Mulberry Street park in 1937 "To the memory of the brave men and women of Bibb County, both the living and the dead, whose heroic service and supreme sacrifice in the cause of liberty during the World War (1917-1918) gave us the full meaning of patriotism". In 1936 she served as Chairman of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Birthday Ball in Macon, which was highly successful.

Mrs. Kinney's indomitable spirit and indefatigable energy led her into the business world where she had a Real Estate and Insurance business of her own. She is a member of Mulberry Street Methodist Church. She is an accomplished vocalist, and her sweet soprano voice has been in demand for many occasions. Interested in social welfare, Mrs. Kinney, after the death of her husband, accepted a position as assistant personnel technician at the State Hospital in Milledgeville, and is now the auditorium hostess, doing rehabilitation of the social life of the myriads of female patients.

The children of W. O. and Clara (Guerry) Kinney are: Dupont Guerry Kinney (who married Ruth Stewart), William Oscar Kinney, Jr. (married Lillian Birdsey and has a daughter, Kitty Birdsey Kinney), Francis Davenport Guerry Kinney (married Eunice W. Willingham and has a son, Calder Willingham Kinney), Clara Virginia Kinney (married William Lawrence Stribling, Jr., and has: W. L. Stribling, III, Mary Virginia Stribling, Guerry Boone Stribling), and Frederick LeGrand Kinney (married Tolee Callaway of Oklahoma, and has Frances Tolee Kinney and F. L. Kinney, Jr.).



MRS. WALTER DOUGLAS LAMAR

MRS. WALTER DOUGLAS LAMAR

Mrs. Walter Douglas Lamar (Eugenia Dorothy Blount) of Macon—"A supreme daughter of the Confederacy and a supreme daughter of America. While she has vigor that youth might envy and maturity of mind that fit her flawlessly, she has the spirit of the best in the 'Old South'." This appraisal was given by the noted American biographer, Douglas S. Freeman.

E. Dorothy Blount was graduated in 1883 from Wesleyan College, Macon, with the A.B. degree, taking a special course the following year at Wellesley College, Massachusetts. Much of her youth was spent in Washington, D. C., where Colonel and Mrs. Blount made an enviable place for themselves during her father's twenty years in Congress. It was there that she became interested in national affairs and gained her cosmopolitan outlook on life. She received in her childhood from her mother, a war-bride of the sixties, and her father, a Colonel in the Confederate Army, fundamental instruction in and an abiding love for the principles upon which the government of the Confederate States of America was founded.

On December 16, 1896, Eugenia Dorothy Blount married Walter Douglas Lamar. He was a son of Henry J. Lamar (1825-1896) and Valeria B. Jones (1832-1895), daughter of Wiley E. Jones of Clinton and Columbus. (Wiley Jones's father, William Jones, represented Jones County in the Georgia General Assembly in 1811). Mrs. Lamar's interest in the civic, intellectual, religious and social life of Macon has prompted her to give freely of time, energy and means to all those ends. Through four decades Mr. and Mrs. Lamar's home, a classical revival in architecture, has been the scene of brilliant entertaining. Walter D. Lamar died on Sept. 11, 1941, and his widow has continued to live in their palatial residence on Georgia Avenue.

In 1911, she and Mr. Lamar attended the reunion of the United Confederate Veterans in Little Rock, Ark. Largely due to her fervent support of the invitation from the Chamber of Commerce, Macon was selected for the 1912 reunion of the veterans. She was appointed President of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Planning Committee for that reunion, and it was her plans for that stupendous undertaking which revealed her marked talent for leadership and her unbounded energy and resourcefulness.

Mrs. Lamar's extraordinary gift as a speaker is evidenced in the numberless addresses made before various organizations in Macon, in Georgia and elsewhere, as well as over radio. In the same ratio, she is in demand as a writer, her sincerity, her gift of expression and power of condensation being peculiarly attuned to the writing of memorials, book reviews, to furthering civic drives, and in all movements for civic betterment. She delivered the baccalaureate address in 1940 at Mercer University, the only woman ever thus honored, and was awarded the degree of LL.D. by that venerable institution.

It was on Sidney Lanier's birthday in 1921 that she delivered, without notes, the address in Wesleyan Chapel, Macon, *Sidney Lanier—Musician, Poet, Soldier.* She stood there, seemingly inspired, giving line after line of her address and quoting parts of poem after poem of his writings. She journeyed to Fletcher, N. C., in 1928, to make the main address on the dedication of a memorial to Sidney Lanier in the "Open Air Westminster of the South". As president of the Sidney Lanier Memorial Association, Mrs. Lamar planned every detail of the outstanding cultural program when the marble bust of Lanier by Gutzon Borglum was unveiled in 1929 at Washington Memorial Library, with both the sculptor and Dr. Edwin Mims of Vanderbilt University as guest speakers.

In 1931 she was chosen chairman-general at the General Convention, United Daughters of the Confederacy, "To Advance the Name of Sidney Lanier for the Hall of Fame in New York University". In 1934 she was elected Historian-General, U.D.C., at the convention held in New York City. At that time she broadcast Lanier's *The Symphony*, with orchestra accompaniment, from Radio City, Rockefeller Plaza. On October 3, 1946, having finally secured the selection of Sidney Lanier for the Hall of Fame, N.Y.U., Mrs. Lamar made the address of dedication when the bronze bust of the poet was unveiled and installed, amid a brilliant assemblage of notables. From 1931 to 1946 she was the author of many pamphlets, letters and magazine articles stressing Sidney Lanier's fitness for the Hall of Fame.

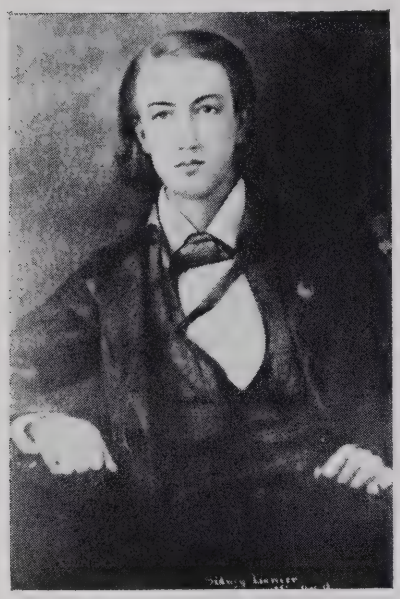
Mrs. Lamar served as President-General, U.D.C., 1937-1939. She counts among the most interesting achievements of her administration the erection and unveiling of a tablet at Fortress Monroe, Va., to Dr. John J. Craven, M.D., U.S.A., who administered to the needs of Jefferson Davis while a prisoner there, addressing the V.M.I. cadets on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Battle of New Market, and (at the request of the U.S. War College) the presentation of a portrait of General R. E. Lee in his Confederate uniform.

Mrs. Lamar is listed in "Who's Who in America" (1948) as Georgia Director for the Robert E. Lee Memorial Foundation, Stratford, Va., trustee of Rabun Gap-Nacoochee Industrial School in North Georgia, former vice-president of Tallulah Falls School Board, former trustee of Wesleyan College, trustee of First Presbyterian Church, member of the American Association of University Women, the Colonial Dames of America, Daughters of the American Revolution, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Pioneer Woman Sixth District Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs, Morning Music Club and A.D.Pi Sorority.

Through her life runs the golden thread of loyalty to ideals.

SIDNEY LANIER

SIDNEY LANIER was born in Macon, Georgia, on February 3rd, 1842. His father was Colonel Robert Sampson Lanier, a prominent lawyer of Macon, of French Huguenot lineage; and his mother was Mary Anderson, of Scotch ancestry. Sidney was christened Sidney Clopton Lanier (Clopton being the name of his father's law partner at the time of Sidney's birth) but early in his literary career, he dropped Clopton from his name, invariably signing his name "Sidney Lanier".



He received his early education in the old Bibb County Academy at Macon, Georgia. In January, 1857, he entered the Sophomore class of Oglethorpe College at Midway, a suburb of Milledgeville, Georgia, from which he was graduated, with high honor, in June, 1860. He served Oglethorpe College, as tutor, during the term of 1860 to 1861; but, in July, 1861, answering the call of his beloved southland, he enlisted as a private in the Macon Volunteers, C.S.A. and was mustered into the Confederate Army at Sewell's Point, near Norfolk, Virginia, on August 31st, 1861, in Company "D" of the Second Battalion, Georgia Volunteers. His younger brother, Clifford, joined him in the Confederate Army in April, 1862, and on three occasions Sidney declined offers of promotion, preferring to share the perils of war with his brother as a private, rather than to accept promotion and separation. Both Sidney and Clifford were transferred to the Signal Corps, in July, 1862. Sidney was captured while attempting to run the Federal blockade, at Wilmington, North Carolina, in November, 1864; his brother, Clifford, being on another ship, was not captured.

Sidney was imprisoned at Fort Monroe, Virginia, and at Point Lookout, Maryland, for four months; but, with other Confederate prisoners, he was exchanged for a similar number of Federal prisoners, in February, 1865. He contracted tuberculosis during his imprisonment and, at the time of his release, was so weak and emaciated that he was barely able to make the journey to his home in Macon, where he was obliged to remain, on furlough, because of physical disability, until the war ended. From that time until his death, Sidney was engaged in a constant struggle with the relentless disease, which finally conquered his indomitable will.

In his early childhood, Sidney gave evidence of an unusual talent for music. In his college note book he wrote:

> "I am more than all perplexed by this fact, that the prime inclination, that is the natural bent (which have checked, though) of my nature is to music; and for that I have the greatest talent, not boasting, for God gave it to me, I have an extra-ordinary musical talent, and feel it within me plainly that I could rise as high as any composer."

As a boy, he was able to play any musical instrument that captured his fancy. Without special instruction, he played the flute, organ, piano, violin, guitar and banjo. He was especially devoted to the violin, but its influence upon him was so intense that his father forbade him to play it, and out of deference to his father's wishes, he gave up the violin and took the flute, which became the chief source of his livelihood during a considerable potrtion of his adult life. He was leading flutist

in the Peabody Symphony Orchestra of Baltimore for many years; and his playing on one occasion was described by the director of that orchestra in the following words:

"I will never forget the impression he made on me when he played the flute-concerto of Emil Hartman, at a Peabody Symphony concert, in 1878: His tall, handsome, manly presence, his flute breathing noble sorrows, noble joys, the orchestra softly responding. The audience was spellbound. Such distinction; such refinement! He stood, the master, the genius."

Sidney's father cherished an ambition to have his first-born associated with him in the practice of law and, being aware of the financial difficulties that usually attended a musical or literary career, in those days, he urged Sidney to prepare himself for admission to the bar so that he might share his father's lucrative law practice. Yielding to his father's importunities, but against the promptings of his own nature, Sidney studied law in his father's office and was admitted to practice law in 1869, and, for three or four years, he earnestly endeavored to make a lawyer out of himself; but the conviction that God had endowed him with special talents, which he was neglecting, and that the time in which he might put them to use was short, became so strong upon him that he wrote a letter to his father, from Baltimore, where he had gone seeking health and an outlet for his inner compulsion in the fall of 1873, from which the following excerpt is taken:

"Why should I, nay, how can I, settle myself down to be a third rate struggling lawyer, for the balance of my little life, as long as there is a certainty almost absolute, that I can do some other thing so much better."

Sidney's natural gift for poetic expression manifested itself almost, if not quite, as early as his talent for music. During intervals in his college days and also during periods of inactivity in the Confederate Army, he wrote little sonnets in which his experiences and sentiments were given utterance. It was perfectly natural for him to express his ideas in poetic form, even in his letters. In his letter to his father, announcing his decision to give up his vain attempt to adjust himself to a business or professional life and the uncongenial atmosphere in which he had been attempting to live, he wrote:

"Think how, in spite of all these depressing circumstances, and a thousand more which I could enumerate, these two figures of music and of poetry have steadily kept in my heart, so that I could not banish them."

In the summer of 1874, during a visit in the home of a close friend and admirer, at Sunnyside, near Griffin, Georgia, Lanier wrote his first ambitious poem "Corn." It was published in Lippincott's magazine, in February, 1875, and evoked much favorable and some extravagant comment. "Corn" was followed in March, 1875, by "The Symphony", which, also, was published by Lippincott's in June, 1875, and met with a very favorable reception. Early in 1876, Lanier was selected to write the Cantata, for the opening ceremonies of the Centennial Exposition, at Philadelphia. The title of the poem is "The Centennial Meditation of Columbia." It was written as a song, was set to music by the famous composer, Dudley Buck, and was sung at the Centennial Exposition by a large chorus, accompanied by an orchestra of one hundred and fifty instruments. The cantata was closely followed by his "Psalm of the West", written in April, 1876 and published in Lippincott's, in July of that year. These two poems brought Lanier into national fame. During this period (1875 and 1876) some 25 of Lanier's poems were published in national magazines. A serious break in Lanier's health, in the winter of 1876, drove him to Florida, in search of renewed strength. In that salubrious climate, the progress of the grim reaper was stayed, for a time, and his poetic fancy was released in a steady stream of short poems, many of which were accepted and published in leading magazines, in the winter of 1877, and served to replenish his sorely depleted supply of funds required for the necessities of life.

Lanier's poetic genius probably found its best expression in his "The Marshes of Glynn", completed in July, 1878. It was published, first, anonymously, in a book of poems entitled "A Masque of Poets", which Lanier was led to believe would be a collection of poems by the best writers, but which Lanier, himself, described as "an intolerable collection of mediocrity". Consequently, it did not receive the recognition it merited, at the time of its publication, but is generally recognized by modern critics as a poem of the highest merit.

In February 1879, Lanier was appointed as lecturer of English literature at Johns Hopkins University, and devoted most of his time to studies, in preparation for those lectures. He found time, however, between studies and sickness, to write a very learned treatise, entitled "The Science of English Verse", which was published by Charles Scribner's Sons, in 1880.

In December, 1880, he wrote "A Ballad of Trees and the Master", described by a modern critic as "the finest of Lanier's lyrics and probably the most perfect poem he ever wrote". His last poem, "Sunrise", was written in the latter part of December, 1880, while he was ill with fever of 104°, and so weak that his devoted wife had to assist him in writing the words that would not be gainsaid. This poem is classed by most critics, along with "The Marshes of Glynn", as the best product of his genius.

On December 19th, 1867, he married Mary Day, who bore for him four sons (Charles Day, Sidney, Henry Wysham and Robert Sampson), encouraged him in his work and ministered to him in his sickness, with true devotion and loyalty. She was the subject of several of his most intimate personal poems, the best known of which is "My Springs", in which he likens his wife's eyes to two springs, a never failing source of his poetic refreshment and inspiration.

In the spring of 1881, his health again broken, by the advice of his medical adviser, and in company with his faithful wife, Lanier sought to recuperate his rapidly ebbing strength by camp life in the mountains of North Carolina. His brother, Clifford, assisted in the erection and equipment of the tent, which was designed to furnish shelter from the elements, with as little separation from the pure mountain atmosphere as possible. His father visited him there; but the little spark of his life had burned too low to respond. Mrs. Lanier has furnished the only account of the end, in these words:

"We are left alone with one another. On the last night of the summer, comes a change. His love and immortal will hold off the destroyer of our summer yet one more week, until the forenoon of September 7th, and then falls the frost, and that unfaltering will renders its supreme submission to the adored will of God".

Sidney Lanier received the well merited, but long deferred, honor of being admitted to the "Hall of Fame", in 1946, and his bust was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies, at New York University, on October 3rd, 1946. He has been memorialized by Macon people in the Lanier High School for Boys; in the Lanier High School for Girls; in the bust of Lanier, by Borglum, in the Washington Memorial Library; and in various other ways, too numerous to mention here.



WILLIAM GREEN LEE

WILLIAM GREEN LEE

WILLIAM GREEN LEE, M.D.—When a man's chief hobby is flowers, one feels justified in attributing to him all of the virtues. Dr. Lee is known all over Georgia for his love of flowers, chief among them camellias and azaleas. He has propagated camellias, and won the Garden Club of America Trophy in 1942 for the best camellia at the show in Augusta, Georgia. He is a director of the American Camellia Society, and is eagerly sought after as a judge in camellia shows. Dr. Lee is a trustee of the A. O. Bacon estate, and chairman of Baconsfield Park Commission.

William Green Lee is a native of Wilkinson County, Georgia, born on November 26, 1875, son of Walter Washington Lee, M. D., and Mollie Elizabeth (Oliphant) Lee. She was born in Jefferson County. His sisters and brothers are: James W. Lee, Mrs. Frances Belle (Lee) Willums, both of Macon, and the late Mrs. Emma Pauline (Lee) Dennard. As five generations of the Lee family have lived in Wilkinson County, two generations in Bibb County, it is natural that with such a heritage and background, he became a good student in the local schools and prepared himself for college. He spent one year at Mercer University, and then entered the Medical Department of the University of Georgia where he was graduated in 1899 as valedictorian in a class of sixty.

Dr. Lee selected Macon, Georgia, as his permanent home, and here he successfully practiced medicine for eight years, serving as City Physician at one time. He early became interested in real estate, realizing that was the solid foundation on which to build success. His success in this line enabled him to branch out in other lines of endeavor: out-of-door advertising; livestock, with a trade area of 75 miles around Macon for thirty years; farming; banking.

As his business interests broadened, so did his participation in civic affairs. He served as alderman, 1913-1915; was a member of the Building and Operating Committee of the Hotel Dempsey and the Municipal Auditorium; a trustee of Mercer University, 1918-1941, serving on the President's Council for one year; chairman of the committee for building Mercer stadium; a director of the Georgia State Fair Association, and on the Executive Committee of the Georgia State Forestry Association.

Dr. Lee is chairman of the Executive Committe and of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank and Trust Company of Macon; president of the Alexander Free School Board; member of the Macon Rotary Club, of which he is a past president; vice-president of the State Chamber of Commerce, member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the Newnan Cotton Mills and of the Macon Hosiery Mill.

Dr. Lee's activities in war work have been outstanding. He was a "Dollar a Year" man, and was chairman of District 13, comprising twelve counties, in the sale of war bonds in World War II. Despite the crushing blow of losing both of his sons in a plane crash while they were serving in the U. S. Navy in 1943, he continued his patriotic service to his country in the sale of war bonds, and redoubled his efforts.

On December 10, 1914, he married Christine Cole, daughter of Madison F. and May (Stewart) Cole, of Newnan, Ga. Their children were: Christine Cole Lee, now Mrs. Henry H. Tift, of Macon; William Green Lee, Jr., born August 17, 1918, died August 15, 1943; Madison Cole Lee, born July 22, 1921, died Aug. 15, 1943. His wife died in May, 1937. On October 9, 1941, Dr. Lee married Anna Corry Weaver of Macon, daughter of the late William Hudnall Morgan Weaver and Anna Stephens (Corry) Weaver. His grandchildren are: Henry Harding Tift IV, William Lee Tift, Jerome Pound Tift.

Dr. Lee is an active member of the First Baptist Church. He has served as a trustee, and as president of the Business Men's Bible Class.

Flowers are not his only hobby, for baseball, football, fishing and saddle-horses share his recreational hours.



EDGAR YOUNG MALLARY, JR.

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EDGAR YOUNG MALLARY, JR., is prominent in the business and religious life of our city. With an ancestry devoted to the ministry and Christian education, the parents of E. Y. Mallary, Jr., were nurtured in the deeply religious atmosphere and home-life that shed a beneficent influence upon their children. E. Y. Mallary, Sr., was one of Macon's most successful bankers and financiers. He organized the Commercial National Bank of Macon. He was a pioneer in the Kaolin industry, organizing the Georgia Kaolin Company in 1898 in Twiggs County, Georgia. He was a trustee of Mercer University, Macon, 1893-1914; chairman of the Board of Deacons of the First Baptist Church and Superintendent of the Sunday School. He was the son of the Rev. Rollin D. and Mary Jeanie (Dagg) Mallary.

E. Y. Mallary, Jr.'s great grandfather, the Rev. Charles Dutton Mallary, was born in Rutland County, Vermont, January, 1801. He was the son of Daniel and Martha (Dutton) Mallary. Charles Dutton was first honor graduate of Middlebury College in Vermont. His older brother, Rollin C. Mallary was U. S. Congressman from Vermont for many years. He began his Baptist ministry in Columbia, South Carolina, in 1824, and in 1825 married Susan Mary Evans of Georgetown. In 1830 he accepted a call to Augusta, Georgia, and from there he moved to Milledgeville, Georgia, serving the First Baptist Church. His wife died in 1834. After acting as financial agent for three years, 1837-38-39, for the new Mercer University at Penfield, he married (2) Mrs. Mary E. Welch of Twiggs County. At this period he did missionary service in the Central Association with outstanding results. He was the ninth pastor of the First Baptist Church of Macon. He was on the Board of Trustees of Mercer University from 1838 until his death in 1864. He was one of the founders of the Southern Baptist Convention, serving on a committee of five to write the Constitution He was called "the St. John of the Convention and of the South." Among the books written by Dr. Mallary are: Life of Botsford, Memoirs of Jesse Mercer, Soul-Prosperity and Simple Rhymes for Children.

The maternal great grandfather of E. Y. Mallary, Jr., the Rev. John Leadley Dagg, was born in Middleburg, Virginia, and became a Baptsit minister in 1816. With superior intellectual attainments, he became pastor of a prominent church in Philadelphia in 1825, where he preached for nine years. He removed to Alabama in 1836 and took charge of the Alabama Female Athenseum. In 1844 he was elected president of Mercer University, serving eleven years, lifting it from a depression to a high state of prosperity. It was said of him: "His learning and ability, his simplicity of character, his unselfishness and disinterestedness, his gentleness and courtesy conciliated to him the cordial co-operation of his colleagues and commanded their confidence and love." He was the author of Manual of Theology, Manual of Church Order, Elements of Moral Science and Evidences of Christianity.

E. Y. Mallary, Jr.'s grandfather, the Rev. Rollin D. Mallary, a graduate of Mercer was a member of that notable class of 1851 at Penfield referred to as "the immortal twelve." Mr. Mallary served as the first pastor of Vineville Baptist Church in Macon, was President of Southwestern College in Cuthbert, Georgia, Shorter College, Rome, Georgia, and of Shelby College in Shelby, North Carolina.

The subject of our sketch, Edgar Young Mallary, Jr., was born in Macon, Georgia, August 9, 1891, son of Edgar Young and Blanche (Nelson) Mallary, who were married on June 2, 1884, at Shelby, North Carolina. Mrs. Mallary was the daughter of the Rev. William Alexander and Martha (Bryant) Nelson. Other sisters and a brother are: Annie Laurie (Mrs. Homer Cling Parker, deceased), Nelson Dagg Mallary of Macon, and Blanche Roberta (Mrs. Walter Pope Binns, William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri). The Rev. William Alexander Nelson was a Baptist minister, an intellectual of his time.

Edgar Young Mallary, Jr., prepared for college at Locust Grove Institute and was graduated from Mercer University in 1913 where he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Immediately upon graduation he entered the banking business in Macon. After a year or so he became associated with the New Riverside Ochre Company of Cartersville, Georgia, but returned to Macon in 1916 and became connected with the Georgia Kaolin Company of Dry Branch, Twiggs County, Georgia. He served as assistant superintendent, superintendent, vice-president and general manager. In 1937, Mr. Mallary organized the Georgia Coating Clay Company, in Macon, which business he heads today.

He wes a member of the Second Infantry, National Guard of Georgia, 1910-1915, retiring as First Lieutenant and Battalion Adjutant. He served in World War I from September, 1916 to July, 1919, going overseas with the 82nd Division and was transferred to the 33rd Division, Illinois National Guard. He participated in the engagements of St. Mihiel Drive and the Meuse Argonne Offensive. He entered as a private and was mustered out as First Lieutenant. He was in the Army of Occupation in Germany immediately following World War I as Commander of the Pioneer Platoon Headquarters 327th Infantry; was appointed regimental guard instructor; was Regimental Tank officer; and Commander of the band.

Mr. Mallary has served as chairman of the Board of Deacons, First Baptist Church, Superintendent of the Sunday School and for the past sixteen years has taught the Baraca Class for young men. He is a trustee of the YMCA, a member of the Board of Directors of the Macon Community Concert Association, and a member of the Industrial Committee of the Macon Chamber of Commerce. For eight years he was a member of the Kiwanis Club. He represented Twiggs County in the Georgia Legislature, 1935-36.

On June 21, 1923, Edgar Young Mallary, Jr. married Martha Emily Bayne, daughter of Marmaduke Gresham and Martha (Miller) Bayne of Macon, Georgia. Mrs. Mallary is a descendant of the Bayne family of Westmoreland County, Virginia. Her father, Marmaduke Bayne, was a graduate of the University of Georgia, and was considered a brilliant lawyer of this city. She is the granddaughter of Henry and Nancy (Gresham) Bayne and great-granddaughter of John Bayne of Jones County, who was a teacher and a scholar of note. He served in the Georgia Legislature from 1812 for a period of fifteen years. A cousin, Hugh Aiken Bayne of New Haven, Connecticut, served on General Pershing's staff during World War I, and was appointed by President Wilson to serve on the Reparations Committee in Paris following the war. On her maternal side, Mrs. Mallary is descended from the Miller, Adams and Bentley families of Washington and Crawford counties.

The children of Edgar Young and Martha Mallary are: Martha Bayne Mallary, Edgar Young Mallary, III, Blanche Nelson Mallary and Miller Bayne Mallary, the last two born at "Kaola Krest", their country home at Dry Branch, Georgia. The older daughter received the A.B. degree at the University of North Carolina in 1946. She is now a senior in the Divinity School of Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, being the fifth woman to apply for the Bachelor of Divinity degree in the history of the School. E. Y. Mallary, III and Blanche Mallary are acquiring their college education at Mercer University with which their forbears have been so closely associated since its founding.



DR. RICHARD HOLMES MASON

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Richard Holmes Mason (1880-1946), Dentist. Outstanding civic leader and nationally known in dental circles, he came to Macon from Wynnton in Columbus when he was five years of age, and it was a great day for Macon although the citizens were unconscious of it at that time. His home was on Orange Street, near Bond, where he lived with his parents, Dr. James Mortimer and Minnie Lou (Holmes) Mason, and his brothers, Fred (who died in 1893) and Mortimer, and his sister Newell. At an early age he developed the magnetism, the leadership and the gift for making and holding friends, which were marked characteristics throughout his life; and as a consequence his home became the mecca for the boys in the neighborhood: Sam Everett and Grey Coleman, Joe Cabaniss, Hayne Ellis (now a retired admiral). Eugene and Charlie Stetson, Herring Winship, George Burr, Dow Ripley, Morrison Rogers, Bruce Jones and others.

Dr. Mason ("Bunks" to his chums) attended the public schools in Macon, winning the medal in the oratorical contest in his senior year at high school—the beginning of his public speaking career. As time marched on he became a gifted speaker, and was in demand as toastmaster when his sparkling wit, his keen sense of humor and charm of manner commanded undivided attention.

He entered Mercer University in 1896 and joined the Phi Delta Theta social fraternity. After completing his freshman year he worked for two years, and re-entered in 1899. He took a leading part in college football, baseball, tennis and other sports. From Mercer he entered the Atlanta (Ga.) Dental College where he was graduated and where he was a member of the Psi Omega and Omicron Kappa Upsilon fraternities.

In 1903 he became associated in the practice of dentistry with his father, who at that time was president of the Georgia Dental Association, and rose rapidly to the top in his profession. His gift of leadership again asserted itself, and he became president of the Sixth District Dental Society, president of the Georgia State Dental Association, honorary member of the Florida State Dental Association, member of the Southern Academy of Periodontology and a member of the American Academy of Periodontology. In 1930 Dr. Mason was given a testimonial dinner by the Sixth District Dental Society on having been elected a Fellow of the American College of Dentists.

Dr. Mason was a trustee of the Atlanta Dental College, later Emory Dental College. For many years he worked to have a dental hygienists school incorporated in the college; and after his death a fund was set up called the R. Holmes Mason Endowment Fund, and resolutions were passed to establish this school and to name it the R. Holmes Mason School of Oral Hygiene of Emory University.

In his young manhood he took an active part in military affairs. He was a member of the Macon Volunteers, and later was elected Captain of the Macon Hussars. He won distinction as a rifle shot, not only in Georgia but at the national meets at Seagirt, New Jersey, and Camp Perry, Ohio. He served in the dental corps in World War I with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In World War II he was active in the State Guard, and participated in the recreation work for enlisted men. He was a Colonel on the Staff of Governor Len G. Hardman. When a government agent wrote the Macon authorities asking that some citizen be recommended to serve on the Alien Board, the agent requested that the men so recommended be "not only capable but particularly kind". The reply went back: "I can recommend one man without giving it any more thought, for Dr. Holmes Mason is the kindest man I have ever known."

Despite his busy professional life, Dr. Mason found time for active participation in civic and social affairs. He served as fifth president of Macon Rotary Club, and in 1936 he received the Elliott Dunwody trophy for the best past president of the club; was president of the Elam Alexander Free School Board, chairman of the Board of Riverside Cemetery; served on bank and hospital boards, and was president and trustee for the Y.M.C.A., of which he was an active member for fifty years. He kept physically fit with daily exercise at the Y. At the time of his death Dr. Mason was chairman of the board. After his death a bronze plaque was placed in his memory in the lobby of the Y.M.C.A. building by the directors and trustees. For more than ten years he had been chairman of the annual membership drive.

He was one of the organizers and the first president of the Central Georgia Council of Boy Scouts. Year after year he took an active part in the local Red Cross and the Community Chest drives. Hardly any movement for the betterment of Macon was started without Dr. Mason being approached to head it.

It is inconceivable that one could do so many things and excel in all of them as did Dr. Mason; yet chief among his interests and activities was his devotion to his church. At the time of his death he was a steward in Mulberry Street Methodist Church and assistant teacher of the W. G. Solomon Bible Class. He was a 32nd degree Mason.

On November 6, 1907 Richard Holmes Mason married Estelle Stevens, daughter of William Parks and Georgia Emma (Stephens) Stevens of Macon. They had one daughter, Emily Estelle, who is now Mrs. Joseph R. Clisby.

It was said of Holmes Mason: "He loved his fellow men and took pleasure in doing things for them." A biography of him in **Rotary Throbs** in 1939 stated: "We think of him as a remarkable person — remarkable in that he has had so much attention, so much acclaim, but it has not spoiled him. He is still the modest and helpful citizen, lending a hand when a hand is needed, and an inspiration and hope at all times."



WALTER METTAUER MASSEY

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WALTER METTAUER MASSEY's father, Orren Webb Massey came to Georgia from Rockingham County, N. C., in 1831 with his parents, Abram and Elizabeth Webb Massey. The family located in Jones County, Georgia, and the youthful Orren began his ten-year apprenticeship with Mr. Samuel Griswold, who was manufacturing cotton gins at Griswoldville.

In 1838, Orren married Mrs. Martha D. Phillips Wimberly, a widow with two children, Mary E. and Lewis Wimberly. To this marriage were born five sons: William Abram, Benjamin Irvin, Milton Madison, Charles Henry and James Butler Massey. These last two sons died as children.

In 1841 the family moved to Clinton, Georgia, a thriving town some 12 miles east of the then 18-year old Macon. At Clinton Mr. Massey established his business under the name of "O. W. Massey". In 1845 he advertised in the Macon Daily Telegraph that he was located at "Crossroads" in Jones County, "repairing gins and manufacturing cotton gins of a superior quality."

In his search for better transportation and power, he located permanently in 1846 at a place three and one-half miles from Macon on the Gordon Road. This land had railroad facilities and power potentialities. In 1847 he moved his residence to the site and operated a large plantation on his properties.

The head of that newly established firm was to show his interest in civic affairs of his community and his state in many ways. Perhaps of special interest is the fact that he had much influence in the establishment of the Academy for the Blind at Macon, Ga. He was present at the organization meeting, and the records show his name as one of the donors to the original funds. It was he who offered the resolution for the founding of the school in 1851. He was instrumental, later in founding the Methodist Church at Masseyville, near the site of the present MASSEY GIN & MACHINE WORKS.

He built up his cotton gin business and improved his factory and facilities, so that in two years he was working thirty employees. By 1859, he had built two lakes for water power and had a machine shop and foundry on one—a saw mill and grist mill on the other. At this time he was manufacturing cotton gins, grain threshers and making miscellaneous repairs on farm equipment.

The War Between the States brought sorrow and hardships for the Masseys as it did to most Southern families. Two of the sons enlisted in the Confederate Army; William Abram served as Junior Lieutenant in the 12th Georgia Regiment and was killed in action at the battle of McDowell in May 1862; Benjamin Irvin died of typhoid fever while in the service. Milton Madison, the youngest son had been taken into the business with his father. Cane mills, syrup kettles and quantities of special castings, some of which were for the State of Georgia or the Macon & Western Railroad or the South-Western Railroad. A tannery was being built for the manufacture of shoes in 1864, but the Federal Army in an attack on Macon, burned Mr. Massey's residence, the factory and several of the surrounding buildings. In this same year, Martha Phillips Wimberly Massey died.

Neither disaster nor sorrow could conquer the spirit of Orren Webb Massey; the war over, he began to make plans again. In 1866 the business was re-established under the name of "Massey & Johnson". The three-story factory was rebuilt on a site below the eastern end of the present mill pond dam. The following year, Orren Massey married Elizabeth Frances Gantt of Clinton, Ga., 1867. To this marriage were born four children: Louise James, Orren Webb, Jr., Lucius Henry, and Walter Mettauer Massey.

The next few years the business grew and a third lake was built and a furniture factory was powered by it. By 1879, Mr. Massey was manufacturing a gin of his own patent, the "Excelsior" and operating a general store and a gin house. It was during this period that the business became known as "Massey's Mills".

In 1881, the brick building which is the main building of the present firm was completed and in September of that year, Orren Webb Massey died suddenly of a cerebral hemorrhage. The business was operated by Mrs. Massey for the next few years and was known as "Massey Cotton Gin Works". Milton Madison Massey left the employ of the firm and established himself as a farmer. Shortly afterward, the manufacture of cotton gins was discontinued and wagons were built under the name of "Massey Wagon Works."

Mrs. Massey died in 1901, leaving the management of the firm with her sons, Orren Webb Jr. heading it. The Massey brothers had developed the furniture factory lake into a place for recreation. This was known as the "Recreation Club".

In 1907 the firm was incorporated under the name of "Massey Gin & Machine Works" with Orren Webb Jr. as president, Lucius Henry, vice-president, and Walter Mettauer, secretary and treasurer. The foundry was enlarged and the manufacture of plow repairs was begun.

Lucius Henry Massey sold his interest in the business to his two brothers in 1910. Orren Webb Jr. served as president until his death in 1929, after a long illness. Walter Mettauer Massey then became president and served in this capacity until his death in 1947.

In 1914 Walter Mettauer Massey married Myrta Anderson of Macon, Ga., and to this union were born two sons, Walter M. Jr., and Joseph Tooke Massey. It was in 1938 that Walter Jr. entered the firm as vice-president and assistant treasurer. He had graduated from the Georgia School of Technology, Atlanta.

During World War II both boys, Walter, Jr. and Joseph Tooke served as Ground School Instructors in Aviation Schools. In 1943 Joseph enlisted in the Organized Reserves and in May, 1944 volunteered for active duty with the United States Army Air Force. April, 1946 he was honorably relieved from active duty, holding the rank of second lieutenant. He now entered the firm of Massey Gin & Machine Works, Inc. as secretary—he, too, having received his education at the Georgia School of Technology, Atlanta. The father and sons repeated history and operated the business together for a few years. In February, 1947 Walter M. Massey died suddenly of a cerebral hemorrhage. At his father's death, Walter, Jr., was made president and treasurer of the company and Joseph Tooke, secretary and assistant treasurer.

The firm which is known as the MASSEY GIN & MACHINE WORKS, INC. has operated for 104 years under the ownership and management of the Orren Webb Massey family, with four generations carrying on the tradition of hard work, honesty, loyalty and tenacity, upon which the business was founded, and is still manufacturing gin an linter saws.



ROBERT LEE McKENNEY

ROBERT LEE McKENNEY

ROBERT LEE MCKENNEY (April 11, 1865 - November 13, 1947) was best known as a newspaper publisher, a singer, a church worker, and a staunch advocate of Temperance. A fitting description of Mr. McKenney's character is an inscription on a silver loving cup, which was presented to him by the citizens of Macon after a bitter political battle in 1910, "For Truth, Right and Justice in Appreciation of Your Valiant Stand". He unhesitatingly used his newspaper, The Macon Evening News, for the advancement of the Temperance movement, always living up to his convictions. He was a tireless fighter, fearless editor and enthusiastic campaigner for the causes he espoused. He supported the candidate he thought best qualified for the office. It was the principle involved which influenced his policy.

Robert Lee McKenney was born April 11, 1865, in Butler, Georgia, two days after the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox. He was the son of Joshua McKenney, of Harris County, and Sarah Saphronia (Walton) McKenney. His mother was born December 13, 1837, in Columbus, Georgia, daughter of Joseph Jackson Walton and Sarah Ann (Dean) Walton. His great-grandfather was John Walton, brother of George Walton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. His father died soon after receiving his discharge from the Confederate Army.

At the age of five years Robert McKenney came to Macon to live with his grandfather, Joseph Jackson Walton. He began his newspaper career as a newsboy in 1870. In his teens he was made assistant circulation manager of The Macon Telegraph and later became circulation manager. In 1890 he became circulation manager of The Macon News, the evening paper established in 1884, and in 1894 he and the late Thomas W. Loyless purchased the paper. He became editor and publisher and was the active head until 1930 when he sold The Macon News to W. T. and P. T. Anderson, of The Macon Telegraph. For his policy he urged his associates to be guided by the Constitution of the United States and the Ten Commandments. He believed that editorial expression should always be independent, outspoken and conscientious. In spite of ominous threats, Mr. McKenney supported Herbert Hoover during his presidential campaign. For a newspaper in the Deep South to support a Republican candidate was quite a departure, but, because he felt Mr. Hoover to be better qualified for that high office, Mr. McKenney cast aside tradition and party politics. In appreciation of his support in various campaigns Mr. McKenney was offered numberless high political offices, but all of these he declined. His interest was unselfish; he felt amply rewarded if, through his efforts, the community, state or country was benefited. Among his most treasured possessions was the silver loving cup presented to him at the close of the 1910 political campaign. During his newspaper career he was identified with the American Newspaper Publishers Association, the National Editorial Association, the Associated Press and several other newspaper organizations, serving as president of the AP Southeastern group at one time.

In 1873 he joined the Mulberry Street Methodist Sunday School class organized by the Hon. Walter B. Hill, a strong temperance advocate. The influence of this forceful Christian character and his wife was evident throughout Mr. McKenney's long and useful life. They early directed young Robert Lee McKenney in the path of temperance and right living, from which he never digressed. In the late 1880's the members of this Sunday School class organized Grace Mission on Oak Street. A few years later the Rev. W. N. Ainsworth, afterwards Bishop Ainsworth, was assigned to Grace Mission. It was while serving this pastorate that Mr. Ainsworth married Miss Mary Nicholson, of Attapulgus, Georgia, with Mr. McKenney as best man at the wedding. For many years Mr. McKenney served as superintendent of Grace Mission.

In 1893 he united with the Mulberry Street Methodist Church and was ever one of its most active members. He served as choir director, as superintendent of the adult department of the Sunday School, as a trustee, and for more than forty years was a member of the Board of Stewards.

Mr. McKenney was a man of dynamic personality with a tremendous spirit of optimism, cordiality and good cheer. Whenever asked how he felt, his invariable reply was "One hundred per cent plus". Macon's welfare and development were of primary importance to him and he gave unstintingly of his time and efforts towards civic improvement. He was treasurer and president of the Georgia State Fair Association, a director in the Young Men's Christian Association, vice-president of the Midland Hotel Company which erected the Hotel Dempsey, was influential in bringing Camp Wheeler to Macon during World War I, and served as chairman of the Minutemen which organization raised the largest bond fund in the history of Bibb County. He was a charter member of the Macon Kiwanis Club and one of its early presidents.

His love and appreciation of good music led him to organize the Macon Grand Opera Association, which he promoted for several seasons. It was his wish to bring within reach of everyone an opportunity to hear grand opera. There was no radio then to bring grand opera into every home. The huge city auditorium was filled to capacity at every performance, the prices scaled down to a very reasonable minimum. Mr. McKenney was also president of the Macon Philharmonic Society.

After his retirement as publisher of The Macon News, Mr. McKenney and his wife took a round-the-world cruise. In India the members of the cruise met the late Mahatma Ghandi; Mr. McKenney was chosen to give him greetings on behalf of the group. He wintered in Coral Gables, Florida, where he bought a home, returning to his Vineville avenue home in Macon late each spring.

On January 26, 1898, Robert Lee McKenney married Mary Odessa Roush, daughter of Charles A. Roush and Margaret (Wilson) Roush, of Ansonia, Ohio. She was living at that time with her paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Roush. They were married at Mulberry Street Methodist Church by the Rev. Alonzo Monk. Their children are: Margaret (Mrs. Henry Cavendish, Miami, Florida), born September 15, 1899, in Macon, Georgia; Odessa Louise McKenney, born October 27, 1900, Macon.

He had two sisters: Mary Alice McKenney (deceased), and Josephine Eulalee (Mrs. Charles M. Clifton, Macon).

Robert Lee McKenney died in Macon on November 13, 1947, at the age of 82.



JULIAN CLAY MURPHEY

JULIAN CLAY MURPHEY

The character-builders in the Barnesville school had him until he was ten years of age, and by that time the habit of studious application to books and their value was a vital part of his thinking and planning. "Clay" came to Macon from Barnesville, Georgia, in his tenth year and entered old Orange Street School and led his class at the age of sixteen.

Julian Clay Murphey was a son of Thaddeus E. Murphey (1857-1917) and Alice Hammond (1858-1942), both of Monroe County, Georgia. His parents were married in Forsyth, in 1879, and both died in Macon. Other children were Claude and Willard.

His father settled in Barnesville, was Mayor and practiced law there; removed to Macon in 1890 as representative of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. Following his graduation from high school Clay entered business with his father under the firm name of Thad E. Murphey & Son. He still holds the agency, although his father died in 1917. Clay planned to enter Mercer University in the fall of 1896 and was initiated into the S.A.E. fraternity, but owning to the continued ill health of his father entered business instead.

In 1906 Clay and Eden Taylor, Jr., organized the firm of Murphey & Taylor, Realtors, to which the late Marshall J. Ellis was added on March 6, 1917. The firm still retains the name of Murphey, Taylor & Ellis, Inc., although Mr. Ellis died in 1928. Mr. Murphey is president.

His sons, Thad and Flew, and his brother Willard, are associated with him. In 1908 he joined Eugene Stetson in organizing the Citizens National Bank. He was a vice-president in this bank until the business and goodwill of the bank were transferred to the Fourth National Bank on the removal of Mr. Stetson to New York. Mr. Murphey served as vice-president of the Fourth National Bank until 1928. In 1909, the Atlantic National Fire Insurance Company was organized by John J. McKay, Clay Murphey and other associates. It would be hard to say which was his greatest interest in his early years: banking, life insurance or fire insurance.

Mr. Murphey is a former president of the Georgia Real Estate Association, the Macon Real Estate Association, Macon Rotary Club, and the Y.M.C.A., of which he is still a trustee.

He has been and still is active in the educational, business, religious and social life of Macon. He has served on the Board of Education for twenty years, which is a self-perpetuating body, and is now chairman of the Finance Committee; he served as trustee of Mercer University, 1932-36.

He has been chairman of the Macon Housing Authority since its organization in 1938; at present is a director of the Georgia Power Company and the Bibb Manufacturing Company, and a former director and commissioner of the Macon Chamber of Commerce. His interest in human welfare is limitless, serving as he has through the years on all drives for social betterment and on War Loan Drives. He and the late Jesse Hart organized the Macon Community Chest and he was the first president. He is a steward in Mulberry Street Methodist Church and chairman of the Finance Committee. His church affiliation began in 1893.

With his many business interests Mr. Murphey has found time for hobbies. He was a member of the old Crystal River Fishing Club and later of the Satilla River Fishing Club; is an amateur photographer of no mean ability, and is a "worker-in-wood". He plays the piano, too.

His son, Clay, Jr., was one of the young men sent by the Macon Rotary Club in a national goodwill movement in 1928 to visit the countries of Norway, Sweden and Denmark; and in 1929 when the good-will visit was returned by young men from these same countries, he entertained the delegation to Georgia in his home and took them on an automobile trip to the Georgia sea-island coast as his guests.

On April 10, 1907, he married Fanny Ross Plant, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hazlehurst Plant, of Macon. Their children were: Julian Clay Murphey, Jr., Margaret Murphey (Mrs. R. D. Martin), Mary Murphey (Mrs. J. R. Dillon), Thad E. Murphey II, Flewellen Plant Murphey. His grandchildren are J. Clay Murphey III, Lee Boswell Murphey, Robert Denson Martin, Jr., Margaret Alice Martin, John Robert Dillon, Jr., Frances Plant Dillon, Dorothy Weston Dillon, Sally Gillespie Murphey and Harriet Ann Murphey (children of Thad). All reside in Macon except Clay, Jr., who lives in Louisville, Ky., and Mrs. Dillon, a resident of Thomasville, Ga. Fanny Plant Murphey died March 30, 1935. He married (2) Mrs. Annie (Taylor) Taylor on Nov. 19, 1938.

A biography of Julian Clay Murphey, appearing in "Macon Rotary Throbs" in 1931 evaluates him as "A quiet man; his movements are deliberate; he never seems to hurry. He has the appearance and mannerisms of a gentleman of leisure. He never seems to be busy, yet he directs a large business, giving personal attention to many of its details. He never seems impatient, yet you know his patience is sorely tried at times; and if you go to his office he will give you an hour or a day of his valuable time and through it all lets you think you are doing him a favor, when in fact you have come to gain his help on your favorite project. All this is due to the proper functioning of a well-ordered mind. He is probably more brilliant than his visitor, but his deference is so pronounced, allowing the visitor to take the lead in conversation, that one leaves him in a good humor with himself and the world. If you are in trouble he has time to listen to your story and to advise with you, but no time nor desire to tell you about his trouble, if any. If you are sick or in sorrow he will be among the first to visit you."



ORVILLE AUGUSTUS PARK

ORVILLE AUGUSTUS PARK

Orville Augustus Park (1872-1943)—lawyer, professor, historian, author, counselor, churchman. A distinguished lawyer, profoundly versed in all that pertained to his profession, one whose high sense of honor inspired implicit confidence; a professor whose disciplined mind, broad culture and literary tastes brought to his law students a devotion to principle and an appreciation of their high calling; a historian of prodigious research, especially concerning Georgia history; an author whose many faceted mind produced books, pamphlets and articles on law, taxation and Georgia history; a counselor whose judicious mind rendered opinions so highly valued as to be printed and used as manuals for study; a churchman whose daily life exemplified his deep and abiding faith.

Orville A. Park, son of John W. and Sarah Caroline (Bull) Park, was born on March 11, 1872, in Greenville, Meriwether County, Georgia. He received his early education in the schools of Greenville, later matriculating at Vanderbilt University where he received the LL.B. degree in 1892. He continued the study of law at the University of Georgia in 1893. The degree of LL.D. was conferred by Emory University in 1931.

He decided to begin the practice of law in Macon, where his father's brother, Capt. Robert Emory Park, was a distinguished citizen. Here he devoted fifty years of indefatigable work in building a well-rounded life, dying on January 27, 1943.

His first law partner was Joe L. Gerdine. Later he formed a partnership with Andrew W. Lane (called "Major"). In 1909 he entered the firm of Hardeman, Jones, Callaway and Johnson, taking the place of Merrel P. Callaway, who removed to Washington, D. C.

His especial bent as a lawyer was towards banking law and tax law. He published many pamphlets and articles on tax administration, and in 1906 compiled and published a *Georgia Bankers Code,* and in 1920 published Park's *Georgia Banking Laws.* Park's *Annotated Code of Georgia of* 1914, *The Code of Georgia of* 1933 and the *Annotated Code of* 1936 have served to clarify obscurities in the Georgia laws. For thirty-six years he was a professor of law in the Mercer University Law School, and the impress of his great mind upon his students is shown in the quality of lawyers graduating during that period. *His Bench and Bar of Macon,* 1823-1923 was prepared for the centennial edition of The Macon News.

His writings were not confined to law matters, for, woven into the reports of the Georgia Bar Association one finds his *History of Georgia in the Eighteenth Century;* and *The Georgia Historical Quarterly* contains many valuable historical articles, contributed by him. He was curator of the Georgia Historical Society, 1930-1936. His priceless collection of Georgiana, which he gave to Wesleyan College several years before his death, is housed in the Candler Memorial Library, and is available for all students and writers of Georgia history.

Although never seeking political office, Mr. Park was drafted to represent Bibb County in the General Assembly of Georgia, where his expert knowledge of tax problems during the troublous days of 1931-1934 made itself felt.

His well-balanced mind and ripe judgment were in demand in civic matters. From 1914 to 1919 he was chairman of the Macon Hospital Commission, was a trustee of Wesleyan College, and member of the Institute of Public Affairs, University of Georgia; was secretary of the Georgia Bar Association, 1898-1917, and president in 1918, member of the Macon Bar Association, Georgia Bar Association and American Bar Association, general counsel of Georgia Bankers Association, 1906-1934, and member of the American Law Institute. He was Georgia State Chairman of the Legal Advisory Boards during World War I. He was a Phi Beta Kappa member, a Pi Sigma Alpha and Beta Theta Pi. Mr. Park was an active member of the Palaver Club, a limited cultural group in Macon.

Mr. Park's devotion to his church was evidenced by the fact that he was superintendent of the Sunday School of Mulberry Street Methodist Church for forty-one years, and was chairman of the Board of Stewards for 25 years. He served as a member of the Judicial Council of the Southern Methodist Church.

On March 29, 1900, Orville A. Park married Elmyr Taylor, daughter of Robert J. and Frances (Dillard) Taylor. Their children are: Frances (Mrs. Edgar Pope. She married first, C. J. Mathews; second, Ray Carter.), Orville, Jr., and Elmyr (Mrs. Brainerd Currie). The grandchildren are: Orville Park Mathews (deceased), Frances Marilyn Mathews, David Park Currie, Elliott Park Currie and Carolyn Currie.

Orville Park's father, John W. Park, was born February 6, 1832, and died July 15, 1905. He was the son of Major John Park (b. 1800) who was the son of William Park of Spartanburg District, S. C., a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Orville Park's great, great grandfather was a native of Chester County, Pa., John Park, who was killed at the Battle of Cowpens, S. C., in the Revolution. Major John Park married Sarah T. Robertson (b. 1805) of Clarke County, Ga. They lived in LaGrange, Ga., and removed from there to Greenville. The Park family originally came from County Donegal, Ireland, and settled in West Chester, Pa., in 1720.

Orville Park's mother, Sarah Caroline (Bull) Park was born June 21, 1839, and died June 20, 1895.



DR. CLAUDE LEE PENNINGTON

DR. CLAUDE LEE PENNINGTON

Dr. Claude Lee Pennington, distinguished Macon physician, was born near Mathews, Ga., March 10, 1891. He died at the University Hospital, Augusta, Ga., on February 21, 1949, after many years of ill health. He was survived by his wife, the former Evelyn Adams, the daughter of James Frederick Adams and Pearl (Adams) Adams of Montezuma, Ga., and by two sons, Claude Lee Pennington, Jr., born November 20, 1927 and Fred Adams Pennington, born December 17, 1930.

His father, Marcus Pennington, was born May 17, 1845 and died December 12, 1934. His mother, Cornelia (Baggett) Pennington, was born July 1, 1846 and died July 10, 1909. Dr. Pennington had three brothers and two sisters.

With the exception of three years of special post-graduate study in New York, Dr. Pennington spent all of his life in Georgia. He received his elementary education at Wrens, Ga., and later attended Richmond Academy in Augusta, Ga. In 1912 he was graduated from the University of Georgia Medical School with honors and immediately began the general practice of medicine at Dearing, Ga.

After ten months in Dearing, he decided to specialize. He served one year in Otolaryngology on the resident staff of the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary and two years at the Brooklyn Eye and Ear Hospital. It was while serving his internship in New York that Dr. Pennington demonstrated the great skill which was later to make him a leading specialist in his chosen field. During this time he perfected a method of nasal operation which greatly reduced the operating time and designed the instrument used in the method, which became known as the "Pennington elevator". Now, years later, it continues to be used in many hospitals. In those days few surgeons had become adept at operating ambidextrously; Dr. Pennington's ambition and determination to master this art became an accomplished fact long before he left New York.

In 1917 Dr. Pennington began his career as a specialist in Macon. In January, 1918, he received his commission as a First Lieutenant in the medical section of the army, but due to the shortage of specialists at home, he was deferred without being called to active duty. He became one of the original owners of the Middle Georgia Hospital which was then known as the Williams Sanatorium. In 1927 he became a member of the American Board of Otolaryngology. He was senior attending on the Eye Ear Nose and Throat service of the Macon Hospital and the Middle Georgia Hospital until his retirement due to ill health in 1933.

In his relatively few years of active practice, he became an eminent specialist. On his death the medical staff of the Macon Hospital, by resolution, paid him a striking tribute saying in part, "He was outsanding in his field of Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. His skill in bronchoscopic work was far ahead of his day and his results with the equipment with which he had to work made him practically a genius. It did not matter to him whether his patients were worth millions or penniless; he gave them all the same treatment."

Although physically incapacitated and prevented from doing active practice, he continued to manifest a keen interest in all phases of medical welfare. He served on the Executive Committee of the Macon Hospital and was also a member of the Macon Hospital Commission for four years where he made great contributions to the nursing and building programs of that institution.

In 1933 he was president of the Alumni Association of the University of Georgia Medical School and until his death was deeply concerned with the progress of his alma mater. He was a member of the American Medical Association, the Medical Association of Georgia the Bibb County Medical Society and the Phi Rho Sigma Medical Fraternity.

Absorbed though he was in his profession, Dr. Pennington was nevertheless a vital force in the religious, civic and business life of Macon. He was a member of the Macon Chamber of Commerce, the Kiwanis Club, the Gridiron Club, the Idle Hour Country Club, a Mason, a Shriner and a steward in the Mulberry Methodist Church. In the latter years of his life, he devoted much of his time to the collection and culture of camellias. He was, for a while, a member of the Men's Garden Club and the American Camellia Society. He was always intensely interested in the policies of current government. He was an ardent supporter of athletics, both high school and college. Not only did he encourage and actively aid their athletic programs, but he helped many young athletes in acquiring an education. He sponsored numerous students through medical college and assisted many young physicians in their early years of practice. Few people were aware of the fact that Dr. Pennington frequently interceded with the courts in behalf of unfortunate people who had erred. He had a firm belief in the fundamental goodness of most human beings.

Dr. Pennington was a man of rare talent and dynamic personality. He contributed much to the cultural, civic and professional life of his state.



JAMES HYDE PORTER

JAMES HYDE PORTER

JAMES HYDE PORTER (1873-1949)—Industrialist and Philanthropist. "Great Souls Are Portions of Eternity" has aptly been applied to Mr. Porter, for the key-note of his life was the interest he took in everything where the pleasures and well-being of people were involved. Quoting from a sketch written of him twelve years ago, it is found to be just as pertinent today: "Goodness and liberality may not be the same, there may be a fine line of difference; but for practical purposes in this more or less selfish world those two words might be used interchangeably. Certainly, liberality is based on goodness and interest — interest that one person feels for another person, another institution or the whole human race . . , He is just a plain good man who may have sensed the idea that the Lord gives material blessings to those who use them with wisdom, and, having proven his worthiness, these blessings seem to shower in his lap."

It is given to few men to so live that never an unkind nor unjust nor disparaging word was said against them. Any who envied Mr. Porter's wealth knew in their hearts that they would never have distributed it so generously nor so lavishly for mankind in all walks of life. In his benefactions he knew no creed nor color. He found avenues of service never dreamed of by lesser souls; yet his wealth was distributed so wisely that the recipients never thought of it as charity, but rather that a friend was helping in the time of need.

His hobbies were roses and children—synonymous with him—with camellias added in later life. Having no children of his own, he lavished his love on the hundreds of children of "the Bibb family", always interested in their pleasures, their development, their character-building, their educational advantages.

Although Mr. Porter gave staggering amounts to Methodist churches in Macon and Porterdale, Newton County, a like interest was manifested in the Baptist denomination, as his grandfather, Oliver Porter, was one of the first trustees of Mercer Institute at Penfield, in Greene County, established in January, 1833. The Porter plantation was north of Penfield. Oliver Porter lies buried in the old Penfield cemetery. Mr. Porter contributed toward the erection of a Baptist church and a Presbyterian church in Porterdale, and helped the Central City College for Negroes (now the Georgia Baptist Negro College) in East Macon, when it was badly in debt. The Porter gymnasium on Mercer University campus was his gift, and he gave the property and money for the construction of Mary Erin Porter dormitory for girls at Mercer, in memory of his only sister, also the old Bartlett property adjoining. In 1938 he gave $75,000.00 for the construction of a gymnasium and recreation center at Porterdale, as a memorial to his mother.

James Hyde Porter was born January 24, 1873, son of Oliver S. and Julia (McCracken) Porter of Covington, Ga. He married, on December 18, 1902, Olive Swann of Covington. His early education was in the Covington schools and later at Emory College in Oxford. His father was a cotton manufacturer, and in January, 1890, James Porter went to work in the commissary at the Porterdale Mills in Newton County. In 1898 the Porterdale Mills were merged with the Bibb Manufacturing Company, Macon, James Porter remaining as assistant agent. In 1907 he and his wife removed to Macon, where he became an affiliate of the Bibb. In 1910 he was elected treasurer, and in 1912 became vice-president. He served as executive vice-president from 1927 to 1936, and continued since that time as vice-chairman of the board of directors. He was a charter member of the Macon Rotary Club, organized in 1914, was a director of the First National Bank & Trust Company, the Macon Federal Savings and Loan Association, chairman of the Board of Stewards of Mulberry Street Methodist Church, a member of the Board of Trustees of Wesleyan College and the Bibb County Board of Education. He was an active worker in the Central Georgia Boy Scout Council.

Aside from his interest in Boy Scouts and Girl Reserves, the Sunday Schools and churches of the Bibb children, his most far-reaching philanthropies have been centered in the establishment of educational scholarships. In 1926 he began advancing money to Bibb employes' children for a college education or a profession. In 1930 he established the O. S. Porter Scholarship Fund as a memorial to his father; and as money was repaid it went back into this scholarship fund. This fund was extended to help other high school graduates. The O. W. Porter Jr. Scholarship Award was established for the first honor graduate at Covington High School each year in memory of his nephew who was killed on Iwo Jima in 1945. For many years Mr. Porter contributed a stated sum to Washington Memorial Library in Macon for developing the Olive Swann Porter genealogical room through the Mary Hammond Washington Chapter, DAR. At his death he bequeathed $500.00 annually for the maintenance of this department.

His wonderfully constructive mind looked far into the future, and he prepared for the perpetuity of his many philanthropic interests through provisions in his will. Chief among the many munificent gifts to Wesleyan College is a chapel to be erected on the Rivoli campus to be known as the Porter Family Memorial Chapel. He specified that a trust fund be established for charitable and educational purposes. Additional munificent grants were made to Mulberry Street Methodist Church, the Y.M.C.A., the Joseph N. Neel Post, No. 3, American Legion, and grants for maintenance of memorials already established, among them the James H. Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Columbus, Ga., and the room in the students activities building at Wesleyan, dedicated to his wife. Since Mrs. Porter's death in 1939, he made his home at his suburban estate, Porterfield, where his collection of roses was rated the second largest in this country.



JOHN OLIVER PORTER

JOHN OLIVER PORTER

John Oliver Porter was born in Covington, Georgia, the son of a Cotton Manufacturer. He made the Cotton Industry his major profession and was connected with the Bibb Manufacturing Company for a number of years prior to his death which occurred April 23rd, 1939.

Mr. Porter received his education at Georgia Tech, where he was graduated as an engineer and a few years after his graduation he patented a number of cotton devices which are still being used by the Bibb Manufacturing Company. He served for a number of years as a director of the Bibb Manufacturing Company and also as a Trustee of Georgia Tech.

Mr. Porter was first married to Martha McKay, of Tampa, Florida. To this union three children were born, Mrs. Perry S. Jenkins, of Columbus, Georgia, and John Oliver Porter, of Winter Park, Florida. Mrs. Richard Gordon, Tampa, Florida. The grand-children are: Perry S. Jenkins, Jr., Francis Porter Gordon. Martha McKay Porter, preceded Mr. Porter to the great beyond. Later in years Mr. Porter married Annie Laurie Jefferson, of Columbus, Georgia, who died in 1945.

Having lived a useful life in Macon, always interested in the development of his chosen city he gave his money and time to the enlarging of textile and other industries of the community. Mr. Porter later moved to Florida, and lived there until the time of his death in 1939. Mr. Porter was a man who was most successful in all his business activities and accumulated considerable wealth and always lent a helping hand to those who showed a disposition to help themselves.



JOSEPH BLOUNT RILEY

JOSEPH BLOUNT RILEY

Joseph Blount Riley (1860-1933)—Wholesale Druggist. It seems the rule, rather than the exception, that really successful business men have their principles rooted in the teachings of the Golden Rule. Mr. Riley was one who never deviated from Christian principles in all dealings with men throughout his business career. Seemingly austere, yet with sympathetic understanding always, he was beloved and revered by his employees. Quiet and unassuming, he was the type of man spoken of as a sterling character.

In 1884, J. B. Riley came to Macon from his home in Perry, Georgia, and gave forty-nine years to building an enviable position in the business, civic and religious life of his adopted city.

Joseph Blount Riley was born in Perry, Ga., on November 21, 1860. He was the son of David and Sarah Riley, who came to Houston County from South Carolina, and had a sister, Elizabeth Riley. His first business affiliation was with the leading drug firm in Macon, H. J. Lamar & Sons. Ultimately he became the general manager. When, in 1901, this firm sold its assets to Taylor & Peek, the Lamar, Taylor & Riley Drug Company was formed, with Mr. Riley the vice-president and general manager. In 1909 this firm acquired the controlling interest in the Lamar & Rankin Drug Company of Atlanta.

In 1920, J. B. Riley and his associates purchased the Macon wholesale drug business under the corporate name of J. B. Riley Drug Company, with Mr. Riley as president. In January, 1929, the J. B. Riley Drug Company was sold to McKesson & Robbins, Inc., Mr. Riley continuing as vice-president and general manager until his death in 1933. The Riley Division of McKesson & Robbins, Inc., is operating today.

Keenly interested in everything pertaining to the betterment of Macon, J. B. Riley served as a member of the Bibb County Board of Education from January, 1915, until April 11, 1933. It is a self-perpetuating body which serves without compensation. In 1915 Mr. Riley was elected to City Council when Judge A. L. Miller became Mayor, and served as finance chairman. An evidence of his popularity was that he polled the highest number of votes of any Alderman, and, as a consequence, was elected Mayor Pro-Tem. He was identified with some of the most constructive measures of that outstanding administration. Mr. Riley was one of the original members of the Macon Hospital Commission, when that body was organized to manage the institution on private subscription. He was a Mason, and a member of the Macon Rotary Club from 1916 until his death.

Early in life he became a member of the Methodist Church. He served on the Board of Stewards of Mulberry Street Methodist Church from 1907 until 1933, and was on the Finance Committee. In 1925-26, Mr. Riley was on the Building Committee, the Board of General Direction and Organization.

On February 15, 1882, Joseph Blount Riley married Julia, the daughter of James David and Jane Pernice (Killen) Tharpe of Houston County. She was born December 20, 1860, and died on September 8, 1940. Their children: James T., Joseph B., Jennie (Mrs. J. D. Crump), Julia (Mrs. C. A. Struby), and Elizabeth (Mrs. Ralph Adams). The grandchildren are: Margaret (Mrs. Carter Printup), Josephine (Mrs. Clifton Paul Michael), children of James T. Riley; John David Crump, Jr. (deceased), Joseph Riley Crump (married Ruth Grace), Helen (now Mrs. John Milton Cutler), children of Mrs. John David Crump; Bert Struby (married Jane Spearman), Joe Struby (married Mildred Bowman), and Julee (Mrs. Ed Burke III), children of Mrs. C. A. Struby; Elizabeth Adams (Mrs. Horace Stringfellow III) and Harriet Adams, daughters of Mrs. Ralph Adams.



WILLIAM PARKS STEVENS

WILLIAM PARKS STEVENS

William Parks Stevens (1859-1920)—Manufacturer of clay products.

His father, Henry Stevens (born May 21, 1813, County Cornwall, England died January 16, 1883, Baldwin County, Georgia), came to America and settled at Augusta, Georgia, at the age of 23. He had been in the pottery business in Cornwall, England, famed for its fine china clay. The mother of William Parks Stevens, Martha Matilda Stephens (1823-1862), was the daughter of John and Martha Stephens of North Carolina and Greene County, Georgia, and they were married in Greene County, Georgia, in 1837. Of the children of this marriage, besides William Parks Stevens, were Martha Jane (Mrs. F. M. Bone), Walter Crawford, Annie E. (Mrs. Daniel Brewer), John Henry, Fannie Matilda (Mrs. J. W. Glenn), and Eliza (Mrs. F. C. Davis).

William Parks Stevens was born March 31, 1859, at Stevens Pottery, Georgia, and died December 3, 1920, in Macon, Georgia. He was the youngest son. He received his primary education at Sparta, Georgia, and later attended Atlanta Business College.

Henry Stevens, in line with the experience which he had gained in Cornwall, England, founded an extensive pottery and clay business in Baldwin County, Georgia. He was the pioneer of this line of work in the South. Henry Stevens retired from active duty in 1876, and, after his death, William Parks Stevens, in partnership with his brothers, Walter Crawford Stevens and John Henry Stevens, from their father's beginning, built the great vitrified clay and pottery business which later became the principal trade of its kind in the South. This was a virgin field in Georgia, and the enterprise owned and operated by the Stevens brothers early became a leader in the vitrified clay business.

In addition to the large plant at Stevens Pottery in Baldwin County, Georgia, William Parks Stevens and his brothers built a plant near Macon, Georgia, known as the H. Stevens Sons Company.

This industry, introduced into Georgia by Henry Stevens and carried on by his sons, met the rapidly increasing demand for clay products. The practical business acumen brought to bear in the industry by William Parks Stevens and his brothers was evidenced by the monetary success achieved by the operating companies. The excellence of the product manufactured was illustrated by the fact that at the Augusta Exposition in 1893, the companies were given the highest award. At all State Fairs held in Macon they won prizes, and the gold medal was awarded to the companies at the Cotton States Exposition in Atlanta in 1895. The highest award was given them for their product at Columbia, South Carolina, in 1897.

William Parks Stevens was a member of Mulberry Street Methodist Church and served until his death as a member of its Board of Stewards. He belonged to the Masonic Order. He was a director of the Citizens National Bank of Macon. While he possessed a quiet and retiring nature and took little active part in politics or public life, his voice was always heard in the social and civic life of his city and state.

William Parks Stevens was married at Stevens Pottery, Georgia, November 9, 1884, to Georgia Emma Stephens, the daughter of John William and Camilla Anne (Hill) Stephens.

The children of William Parks Stevens and Georgia Emma (Stephens) Stevens are Willie Estelle (Mrs. Richard Holmes Mason, born at Stevens Pottery, Baldwin County, Georgia), Frances Matilda (Mrs. Washington Dessau, born at Stevens Pottery, Georgia), and William Parks Stevens, Jr. (born at Macon, Georgia, and married to Mildred Taylor).

The grandchildren are Mary Estelle Mason (Mrs. Joseph R. Clisby), Frances Stevens Dessau (Mrs. Walter Glenn Ashmore), Georgann Estelle Dessau (Mrs. Arnold Siegfried Blum), and Cornelia Lamar Dessau (Mrs. Jackson Riley Holliday). Two other grandchildren, Robert Jenks Taylor Stevens and William Parks Stevens III, are deceased.



HARRY CANTEY STEWART

HARRY CANTEY STEWART

HARRY CANTEY STEWART was born September 13, 1885, in Bibb County, Georgia, son of Millie Cantey (Woolfolk) Stewart and Benjamin Stewart; grandson of Thomas Jefferson Stewart and Sarah Finney Stewart of Jones County. His father was born in Jones County, Georgia, and his mother in Russell County, Alabama. Both are deceased. Mr. Stewart's brothers are: Thomas Jefferson Stewart, Walter Ballard Stewart, and Benjamin Crowell Stewart.

Harry Stewart, better known to his friends as "Mr. Harry", was one of Macon's most popular men. He was a friend to all, both white and colored. He never turned a deaf ear to anyone in trouble, regardless of the nature, whether domestic or financial. He always gave the advice his conscience dictated, and his foresight brought many a family back to an understanding which otherwise would have been wrecked. His pocketbook was always open to the needy. Harry Stewart never met a stranger, they were friends at the first handshake.

Harry Stewart married, in 1909, Eunice Stewart, daughter of J. T. and Minnie Buckner Stewart, in Macon. She died in 1918, and to this union were born Harry Cantey Stewart, Jr., born November 7, 1915, in Decatur, Georgia. (Married November 9, 1940, Frances Wright of Lincolnton, Georgia. Issue—Frances Ina Stewart); Betty Floride Stewart, born August 31, 1917 (married June 18, 1940, Alvin Wingfield, Jr., of Atlanta, Georgia. Issue—Mary Elizabeth Wingfield, and Alvin Wingfield, III).

On October 8, 1921, he married Gladys Bizzell, in Macon, daughter of David and Mary Fowler Bizzell. To this union were born Crowell Woolfolk Stewart, January 23, 1923. (Married Mary Frances Jemison, of Anniston, Alabama, February 3, 1945. Issue—Margaret Lucile, Camilla Cantey, and Henry Crowell Stewart); Thomas Jefferson Stewart, II, September 21, 1924 (died December 30, 1925; Gladys Harriette Stewart, born May 17, 1926; (married James F. Toy, III, of Sioux City, Iowa, June 22, 1943. He was killed in action at Bastonge, Belgium on January 4, 1945. Issue—Mary James Toy. Gladys married December 30, 1949, in Macon, Georgia, Charles Thomas Maxwell, Jr., of Sioux City, Iowa); Millie Cantey Stewart, born December 27, 1927.

Mr. Stewart was devoted and loyal to his family, his business, and to his community, but he delighted most in the happiness and welfare of his family. His motto might well have been "Non sibi sed alis"—Not for himself but for others.

Harry Stewart served as member of the City Council of Macon, for twelve years, during the administration of Charles L. Bowden. He was a charter member of the Macon Kiwanis Club, and he received his education in the public schools of Macon. His membership was in the Vineville Methodist Church.

Harry Stewart was an ardent lover of horses and thoroughbred cattle. He operated a successful farm in Jones County, Georgia, where he raised beef cattle and hogs. He loved to fish and had a pond on his farm well stocked, which his friends enjoyed. In his younger days he was quite a marksman and loved to roam the woods with his fine dogs, hunting quail and other game. Harry Stewart, owner of the Stewart Oil Company, not as a matter of policy but as a matter of principle, treated the employees of his business fairly, justly, and courteously, and for this reason they were most loyal co-workers. The good fellowship of his employees was one of his greatest assets. While Mr. Stewart knew that the natural reaction to the giving of a square deal would be a larger dividend, his motive was by far a purer, higher, and nobler one than that prompted by selfishness. "He lived for others," may be truly said of him. As wise William Penn wrote: "He that does good for good's sake, seeks neither praise or reward, though sure of both at last."

Mr. Stewart died in a Macon hospital, November 10, 1949.

J. E. P.



THOMAS JEFFERSON STEWART

THOMAS JEFFERSON STEWART

THOMAS JEFFERSON STEWART—Merchant (Dry Goods). Love of the beautiful and love for his fellow man are dominant characteristics of Thomas J. Stewart. Modest to the extreme, only himself and those who have been the recipient of his benefactions will ever know the extent of his generosity. Success in life has meant to him only a larger opportunity to lighten the burdens of others. Kindliness and cheerfulness are ever present in his every-day life. By constant reading and study and travel, Mr. Stewart has gained a storehouse of information which, coupled with innate ability and common sense, has made him a delightful companion and a wise business executive. His sympathetic understanding and unfailing courtesy gained for him the love of his employees.

Thomas J. Stewart, son of Ben Stewart (born in Jones County, Georgia, Feb. 10, 1854, died July 30, 1914) and Milly Cantey (Woolfolk) (born in Russell County, Alabama, Dec. 1, 1857, died Dec. 7, 1944) was born on August 21, 1881, Jones County. Other children of Ben and Milly Stewart are: Walter Ballard Stewart (married Louise Clark of Americus, Ga.), Harry Cantey Stewart (married first, Eunice Stewart; second, Gladys Bizzell), and Ben Crowell Stewart (married Ethel Stewart).

His parents removed to Macon when Tom was a small boy. He attended the public schools and was graduated from the former Gresham High School in Macon at the age of 16 years. After graduation his first employment was with the Payne and Willingham Furniture Company. In 1901 he became connected with Burden, Smith & Company, "The Empire Store", and was elected secretary and treasurer in 1904. He bought stock in the firm and later became general manager. On the death of his father-in-law, R. F. Burden (q.v.) in 1937, he was elected president. He managed this large mercantile business until his health failed in 1945, when he retired from business.

A man of generous nature and means, he contributed to all causes for the upbuilding of his city and church. He served as chairman of the building committee of Vineville Methodist Church and was for many years a Steward and Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He served also as Chairman of the Board of the Methodist Orphans Home, and supervised the erection of several of the buildings. In 1933 Mr. Stewart was elected a trustee of Wesleyan College, and served as chairman of the Finance Committee for many years. He was one of four trustees to guarantee the purchase of Wesleyan College when put up for public sale, and one of the incorporators of the Wesleyan Corporation.

The following is from a tablet placed in Wesleyan College by the Trustees:

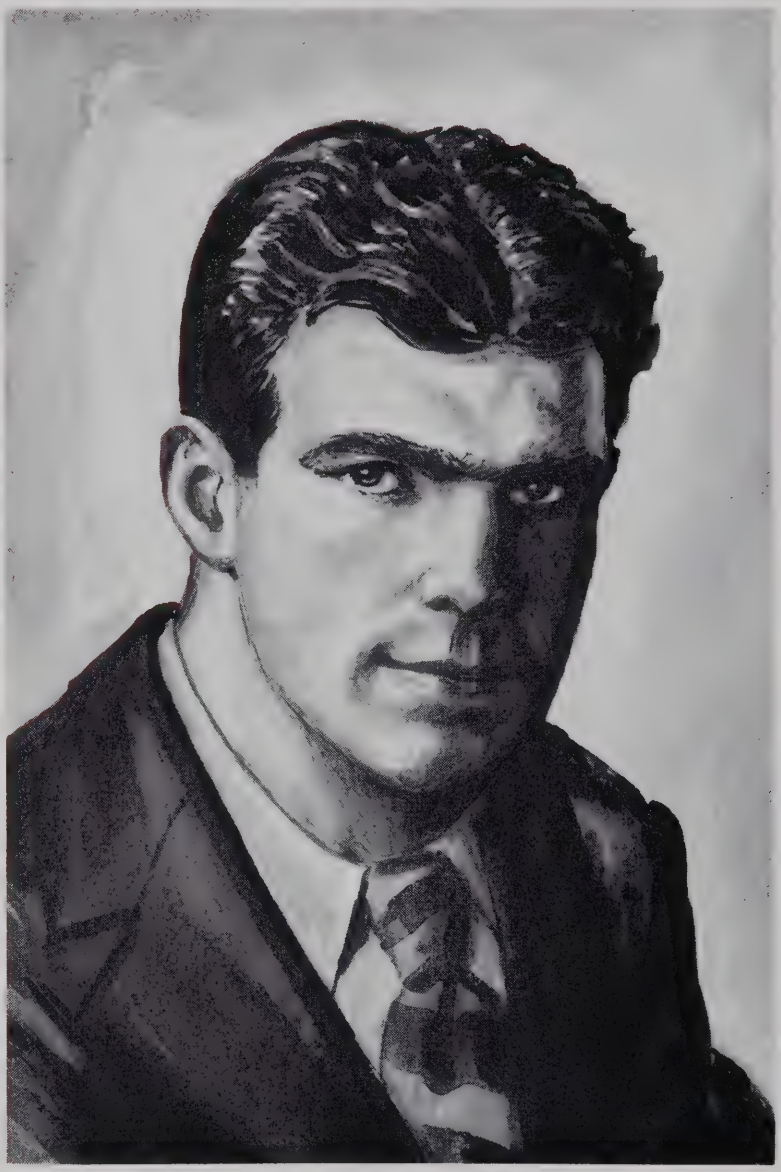
"Erected as a tribute to Thomas Jefferson Stewart, Builder, lover of church, champion of his beloved Southland. Trusted Friend of Wesleyan, Steadfast and True."

His civic interests included among others, a directorship in the Citizens & Southern Bank, and member of the Board of the Georgia Academy for the Blind. He was instrumental in organizing the Retail Merchants Association in 1919 and was the first president. He was an early member of the Macon Rotary Club, and is a member of the Retail Merchants' Bureau.

On December 4, 1907, Thomas Jefferson Stewart married Ann Octavia Burden, daughter of Richard F. and Amelia Maria (Bass) Burden, at her home in Vineville. He built a lovely home across Vineville Avenue from that of her parents. There was one child, Thomas Jefferson Stewart, Jr., born February 14, 1916, who died in infancy. Both Mr. and Mrs. Stewart being ardent flower lovers, their town house was soon surrounded by exquisite flowers, and a glass-enclosed camellia house was built in the rear garden. In 1921 he bought his mother's ancestral home in Jones County where he was born, and where he and Mrs. Stewart have lavished time and money in beautifying the grounds, and restoring the house and furnishing it in period style. This estate they named Tomatava. In World War II he gave many truck loads of shrubbery to beautify Cochran Field. In connection with his plantation he at one time had a large peach orchard.

In 1932, Mr. Stewart assisted in organizing the Azalea and Camellia Society of America and was the first president. He was also first president of the Men's Garden Club organized in 1938. He is a member of the American Rose Society, Historical Society and Art Association.

His life has fulfilled the requirement: "To do justly, love mercy, walk humbly before thy God."



WILLIAM LAWRENCE STRIBLING, JR.

WILLIAM LAWRENCE STRIBLING, JR.

William Lawrence Stribling, Jr., born December 26th, 1904, Bainbridge, Georgia, son of W. L. and Lillie Braswekk Stribling, both born in Thomas County, Georgia. William Lawrence Stribling was known as "Young Stribling" the pride of Macon.

Young Stribling received his education at Lanier High School, Macon, and University School for Boys, Atlanta, where he graduated in 1925. Stribling was a natural born athlete, having started his career as an acrobat in the circus and vaudeville. His father and mother saw immediately the alert and quick action of his muscles in the many acts which he performed and decided that he would make a good boxer. He was given early training in fisticuffs and became one of the most outstanding young boxers during his time.

William Lawrence Stribling married Clara Virginia Kinney, December 26, 1925, daughter of William Oscar Kinney and Clara Guerry Kinney. They have three children, William Lawrence Stribling, III, born January 24, 1927, Mary Virginia, November 9, 1928, Guerry Boone Stribling, September 20, 1933. All born in Macon, Georgia.

Stribling was a 32nd degree Mason, Shriner (Al Sihah Lodge), member of Pi Chi Fraternity, Elks, member of Idle Hour Country Club, Tennis Club and Outboard Motor Club. He was a First Lieutenant U. S. Air Forces Reserve Corps.

Stribling grew up at Ochlocknee, Georgia (near Thomasville) and moved to Macon when he was about 15 or 16. When he was very small he and his family were in vaudeville. They were known as "The Four Novelty Grahams" and toured the U. S., the Orient and Cuba. During this time his father, "Pa" Stribling, was teaching both of his boys to box. Strib's first big fight was with Mike McTigue at Columbus, Georgia, when he was around 17.

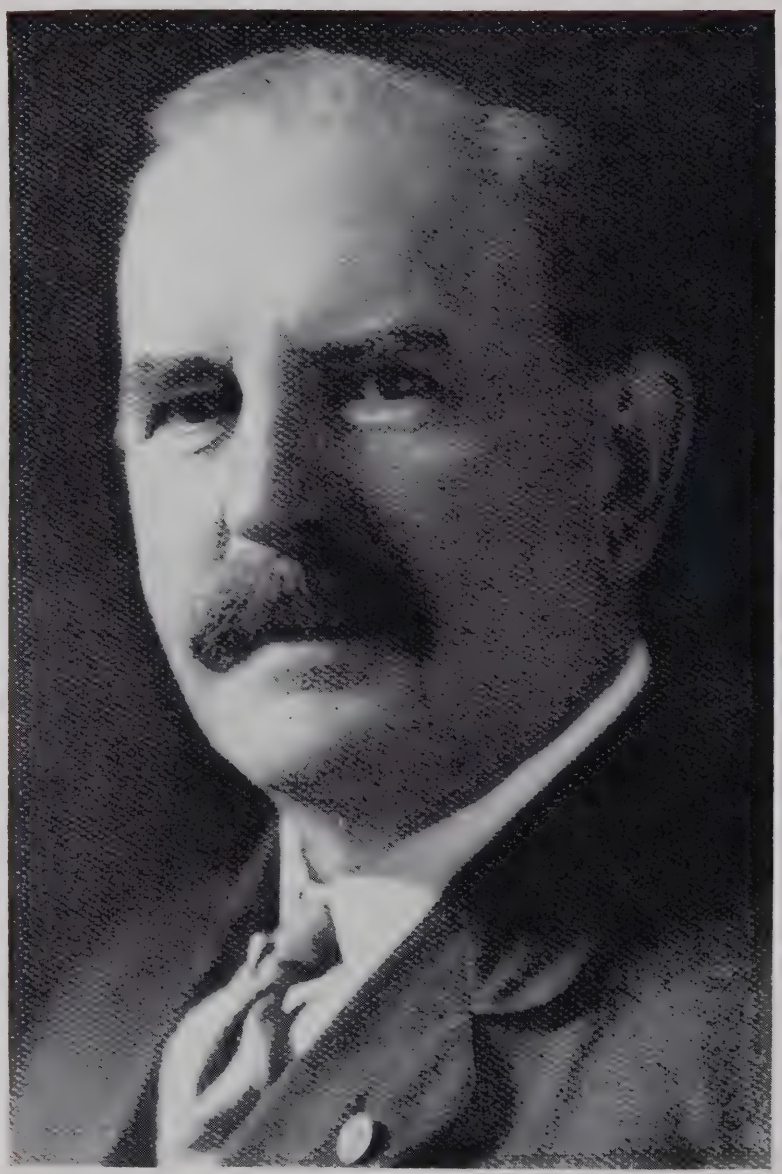
One of the tributes to Strib that touched him deeply was in the summer of 1931, immediately after he lost the Championship fight to Schmeling. His friends in Macon (that seemed to include almost the entire population) formed a cavalcade to meet him as he drove from Atlanta. There was a parade, and later that night a banquet in his honor.

After his death a new bridge over the Ocmulgee River at Macon, was named "Stribling Memorial Bridge" for him. His friends promoted a spectacular Memorial Boxing Exhibition at the Auditorium in his memory in which several Champions and famous boxers took part. An equipped gymnasium at the Macon YMCA, with some of his trophies, was given to further the work with boys and men.

"Young" Stribling enjoyed his farm at Ochlocknee, Georgia. There was a fish pond and woods and fields where hunting was excellent, which he and his friends enjoyed.

He was an expert photographer, and was happy when taking pictures of his children and family. He was a devoted father and husband. He is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Macon, on a bluff by the river. There is a tall granite monument with his name inscribed over the symbols of wings and laurel; at the base is inscribed, "Earth changes, but thy soul and God stand sure".

Young Stribling died in a motorcycle accident October 3, 1933.



ROBERT JENKS TAYLOR

ROBERT JENKS TAYLOR

ROBERT JENKS TAYLOR (1854-1939)—Banker. Early associated in retail drugs, the grocery business, fertilizers, then banking, and in banking he found his destiny. As a banker in Macon, a full biography might be written; yet to banking alone this versatile man did not confine his ability and interest. He was a financial wizard. A contemporary banker said of him: "I regard R. J. Taylor as preeminently the best and most constructive banker Macon ever had. He saved businesses, and I feel safe in saying he never wrecked one." In every business transaction Mr. Taylor contributed his characteristics of keen foresight, broad vision, generosity, indomitable courage and the rare gift of seeing both sides of a question.

Robert J. Taylor, born June 15, 1854, in Hawkinsville, Georgia, was a son of Ezekiel Henry Taylor, M.D. (born Oct. 7, 1826; died Aug. 8, 1890), and Sarah Augusta (Stone) Taylor, daughter of Pleasant Green Stone and Martha Jane (Wallace) Stone. His paternal grandparents were Robert Newsom Taylor, M.D., and Louisa Mariah (Taylor) Taylor. Reared during the "raven days" of the War between the States and Reconstruction, his education was confined to private schools. At the age of eighteen he entered the drug business of his uncle, Augustus Richard Taylor, M.D. When 22 years of age he embarked on a business venture of his own, the grocery business, with a capital of $225, saved from clerking in his uncle's drug store. Here he laid the foundation for attention to duty, frugality, high sense of honor and determination, which persisted throughout his life. In 1880 he formed a partnership with Dr. Nathaniel P. Jelks in the retail drug business, and acquired sole ownership in 1886.

In November, 1889, he brought his family to Macon, and became treasurer and general manager of the Central Guano Company, the name being changed to Southern Phosphate Works in July, 1890. The following year he was made president. In 1895 the charter was amended to raise the capital stock to $200,000. This concern was sold to the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company in 1898, Mr. Taylor's banking interests, in the meantime, having become so absorbing. In 1891 he was one of the organizers of the American National Bank, and became a director and chairman of the Finance Committee. In 1901 Mr. Taylor was elected executive vice-president of the American National, and became president in 1905. Eleven years later this bank was sold to the Citizens & Southern Bank of Savannah; and in December, 1925, Mr. Taylor became a director, holding this office until his death. In 1904 he assisted in the organization of the Home Savings Bank, and was its second president. The name was changed to the Continental Bank & Trust Company in 1911 and he remained president until 1918 when it was sold to the Fourth National Bank.

In 1889 Mr. Taylor organized the wholesale drug firm of Taylor & Peek (Thomas C. Peek). Two years later this firm purchased the assets of H. J. Lamar & Sons, and the firm became known as Lamar, Taylor & Riley Drug Company, with Mr. Taylor as president. Eight years later this firm acquired the controlling interest in the Lamar & Rankin Drug Company of Atlanta, with Mr. Taylor as president, which office he held for twenty years, becoming chairman of the Board in 1929, and remaining in this capacity until his death. R. J. Taylor, Jr., succeeded his father as president. While president, Mr. Taylor sold the Macon company's stock which is now owned by McKesson & Robbins, but retained the charter which was used for the R. J. Taylor (Investment) Company, a family business that continued until it was liquidated in 1938.

Although taking no part in politics, Mr. Taylor was distinctly civic-minded, and was greatly interested in everything that would promote the growth and development of Macon. He gave freely of his time and business acumen to the Alexander Free School Board from July, 1915, until his death, having been chairman the last twenty years. He was a member of the Bibb County Board of Education. He was a trustee of the Vineville Methodist Episcopal Church, and was elected a trustee of Wesleyan College in 1933, serving during the last year of his life as chairman of Wesleyan Corporation. In reorganizing Wesleyan he rendered personal assistance in a manner which was substantial as well as timely.

Mr. Taylor served as Director of the Southern States Life Insurance, 1906-1931, the Macon, Dublin & Savannah Railway, 1907-1929, Southern Mutual Insurance Company, 1909-1939, Atlantic Fire Insurance Company, 1909-1912, Macon Railway & Light Company, 1911-1928, Massee-Felton Lumber Company, 1912-1939 (also as vice-president and president), and Bibb Manufacturing Company, 1914-1939. He was a member of the Bond Commission of Bibb County in 1908 and was president when it paid off in 1910. He was an organizer of the Dempsey Hotel Company and president, 1912-1913, and a director until 1926.

As a tribute to his father and grandfather, both of whom were physicians, he built the R. J. Taylor Memorial Hospital in Hawkinsville, Georgia, a gem of architecture and a model in up-to-date equipment. A man of extreme diffidence, he nevertheless sought opportunities to help the unfortunate in a quiet way.

Robert Jenks Taylor was married three times: first, in Hawkinsville on January 5, 1876 to Fannie E., daughter of Nicholas Philip and Frances (Dawson) Dillard; second, on June 18, 1886, to Mary Frances, daughter of Major John W. Pate of Hawkinsville; and third, at White Sulphur Springs, Georgia, on June 23, 1891, to Kathleen, daughter of Dr. William Francis and Martha (Jennings) DeWitt of Thomasville, Ga. By his first marriage there were four children: Elmyr who married Orville Augustus Park (q.v.), and Gertrude (deceased) who married Willim Hilles of New York. Two boys died in infancy. By the third marriage there were seven children: Robert J., Jr., of Atlanta (who married Elizabeth Baker); Eugene Hammond; Mildred (Mrs. William Parks Stevens of Macon); Mary (Mrs. Benjamin Franklin Peeples of Macon); Marshall Johnston (who married Elizabeth Tuttle), and two girls who died in infancy.

Robert Jenks Taylor died on November 30, 1939, in Atlanta, Georgia.

"He began with nothing except the capital of character and capacity for hard work", and his life ended at the very pinnacle of usefulness and success.



BILLINGTON SANDERS WALKER

BILLINGTON SANDERS WALKER

BILLINGTON SANDERS WALKER—Realtor and Insuror. President of Fickling and Walker, Inc. Residence: 119 Stanislaus Circle, Macon. Perhaps the youngest of the successful young business executives in Macon, Sanders Walker is steadily climbing the ladder of success, destined to place his name among those of the Walker family who have achieved distinction. With his proud heritage, he zealously guards his reputation for fairness and honesty in all business dealings. This springs from an innate sympathy and understanding, and a generosity of spirit which has characterized him from his childhood.

Mr. Walker is a native of Macon, son of the late B. Sanders Walker and Marie (Stevens) Walker. He was born May 7, 1909, in the Sidney Lanier birthplace on High Street, where he spent his youth and his married life until 1917, and where his children were reared. His parents were married November 7, 1905, in Macon, and his father died in May, 1912. His mother married William T. Wood, June 7, 1923, and lives at "Merriewood", a suburban estate famed for its beauty. She and Mr. Wood are noted authorities on azalea, camellia and iris growing, and are in demand as lecturers to garden clubs throughout the country.

Sanders Walker attended the Macon schools, and was graduated from the University of Georgia in 1930 with the A.B. degree, where he was a member of the S.A.E. social fraternity. While in college he was one of four Macon boys selected by the Macon Rotary Club to be a part of a good-will tour of Europe in 1928, and was one of the hosts to foreign boys when the courtesy was returned the following year. After his graduation from the University of Georgia, he attended Roger W. Babson College and received the Certificate of Business Administration in 1931.

Mr. Walker seems to have entered the business world at the top, for he formed the real estate firm of Robertson-Walker, Inc., in 1933, serving as President for six years, when he became President of Fickling and Walker, Inc., real estate and insurance, in 1939, and has continued as President for the past ten years. His success in this field has been phenomenal. With the organization of numerous building corporations, of which he has served as President or Vice-President, his firm has helped to relieve the housing situation by the construction of thousands of houses in the Macon area. He has served as President of the Macon Insurance Agency; also as a member of the Executive Committee of the Georgia Association of Insurance Agents; and for two terms served with the Georgia Real Estate Commission. He is a partner in the Adams-Feagin Company and the Southeastern Advertising Service.

With his keen mind and outstanding ability, Mr. Walker has taken part in civic affairs, being a former director of the Macon Chamber of Commerce; and for the past two years has been Vice-President of the Macon Baseball Company, which sponsored the pennant-winning team in 1949.

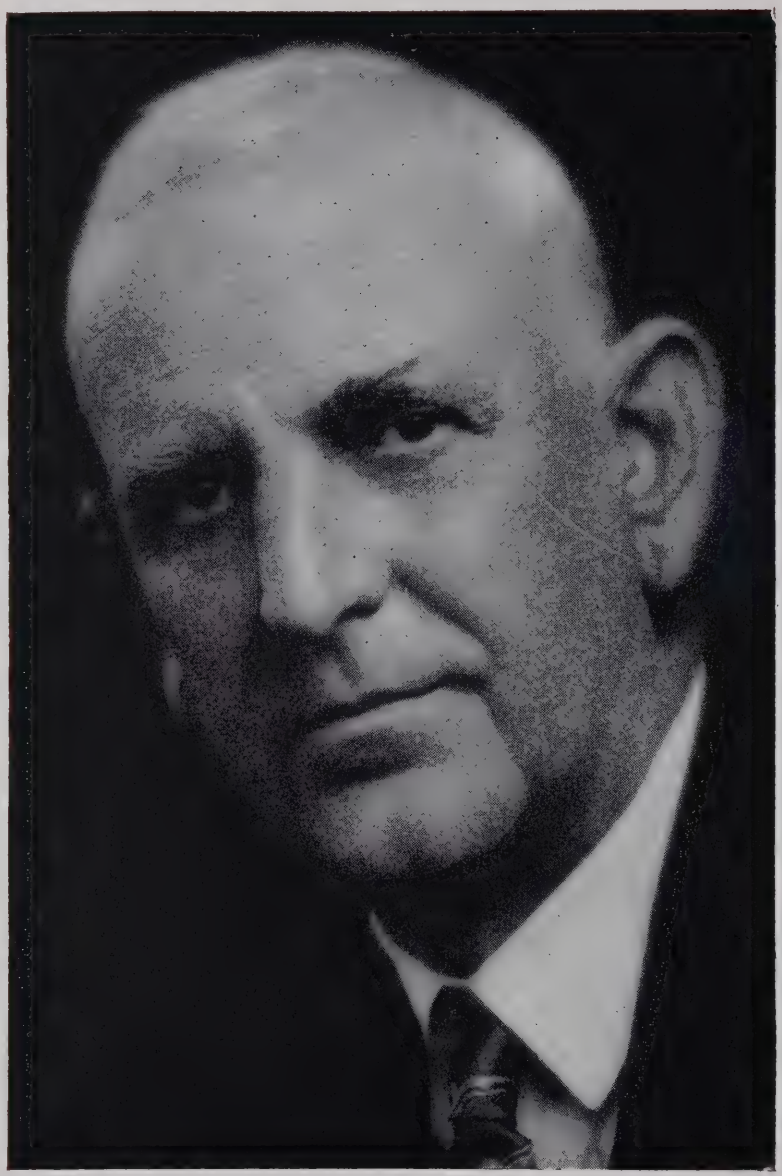
His business career was interrupted by his service in World War II, as a Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy from November, 1943 to November, 1945. Fourteen months of this service was spent in the Pacific Theater, participating in the invasion of Peleliu.

Mr. Walker's church membership is in the First Baptist Church, and he is affiliated with the Idle Hour Country Club and the B.P.O.E. (Elks).

In Athens, Georgia, on June 26, 1930, Billington Sanders Walker married Emily Carolyn Bailey, daughter of James Weeks Bailey (born LaBette County, Kansas, December 18, 1880; died August 3, 1910, Colorado Springs, Colo.), and Emily Constance Waff (born Reynoldson, N. C., September 5, 1882), who were married December 5, 1906, in Athens, Georgia. The children of Sanders and Emily (Bailey) Walker are: Emily Bailey Walker, born November 13, 1934; and Billington Sanders Walker, Jr., born February 9, 1938.

There are two distinctive types of successful men: one which, with little of that elusive element called "background", has forged ahead and by frugality and perseverance has overcome all obstacles and stands shoulder to shoulder with the leading men of his era; the other type, a product of the notable charactertistics and achievements of distinctive forebears which they consider a sacred trust. This type of man has so ordered his life that he, too, has made a worthy contribution to his inheritance. The subject of this sketch has ancestral roots on his paternal side in the old Mt. Zion and Powelton sections of Hancock County, Georgia, a neighborhood early noted as a center of culture and scholastic training that gave to Georgia Gov. William Rabun, Gov. William J. Northen, the distinguished Thomas Neel, James Veasy, a Revolutionary soldier and nephew of Thomas Ward Veasy, Governor of Maryland, 1836-38. Ex-Governor Clifford Walker is an uncle, and Gov. Henry McDaniel was a cousin.

Billington Sanders Walker, III, is the grandson of Billington Sanders Walker (Major, C.S.A.) and Alice (Mitchell) Walker; great grandson of Dickerson Holliday and Mary (Neel) Walker, and is a direct descendant of Thomas Neel, James, John and Jane (Rabun) Veasy, and Valentine Hollingsworth. The Hollingsworth family emigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania in 1682, settling later in Maryland, and intermarrying with the Maulden family. These have been men of influence, and have made notable contributions to public affairs of their time and were men in whom one might take a just pride.



WILLIAM HUDNALL MORGAN WEAVER

WILLIAM HUDNALL MORGAN WEAVER

William Hudnall Morgan Weaver (1867-1936)—Far above the average in mind and body, he carried the culture, the dignity, the poise of the gentleman. He was a man of education, appreciation and understanding. A student of many subjects, by the orderly process of his mind he mastered one field of learning after another until he was a recognized authority. Whenever a profound problem was under discussion for solution, the invariable remark was: "Ask Uncle Pike Weaver; he knows". His special interest in the County Almshouse and the Home for Juvenile Delinquents gives the key to the character of this man who loved his fellowman, and whose heart was in the work of raising the living level of the unfortunate old and young whose environment was not conducive to proper development and growth.

It was in Greensboro, Georgia, that William Hudnall Morgan Weaver was born, February 25, 1867, son of Judge William Morgan Weaver (born June 20, 1839, died June 11, 1906) and Margaret Lasseter (Nickelson) Weaver (born Nov. 26, 1839, in Greensboro; died April 14, 1882), who were married in Greensboro, March 14, 1860, by the Rev. George F. Pierce. A family of strong personalities, his sisters and brothers made their impress in their journey through life. They were: Maria Weaver (Mrs. N. B. Burks), Jude Weaver (Mrs. Walter L. Jones), Mary Weaver (Mrs. T. J. Bethea), Margaret Weaver (Mrs. J. A. Smith), William Blake Weaver and Dr. Olin Heard Weaver. William Hudnall Morgan Weaver's grandfather was William Wiley Daniel Weaver who married on April 8, 1824, in Greensboro, Caroline Matilda Mounger, of the old Mounger family of Wilkes County, Ga. They were married by the Rev. Lovick Pierce, another distinguished Methodist minister. Maternal grandparents were James Blake Nickelson and Ann Maria Willy who were married in Augusta, Ga., March 5, 1833, by the Rev. James Isaiah Holcombe, the bride's grandfather.

William H. M. Weaver received his early education in the schools of Greensboro, Ga., and attended the famous Academy of Prof. Overton at Union Point. It was in 1887 that he became connected with the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company, at the age of 20, in Atlanta, Ga. In a period of eight years he served this Company in Americus, Ga.; Charleston, South Carolina; Anniston, Alabama; Montgomery, Alabama, and in 1895 was transferred to Macon with the position of District Manager. This office he held until his retirement in 1932 at the age of 65.

Mr. Weaver was elected Bibb County Commissioner in the May primary, 1932, and his election was confirmed in the general election in November, and he took office in January, 1933. He served the full term and was re-elected in May, 1936, but did not live until the November general election, dying September 28, 1936. Even though his health was poor, it was during this period that he accomplished some of the most constructive work of his career, giving to the office of County Commissioner the benefit of his ripe judgment, his administrative training and his love for humanity. The road on which the County Almshouse and the Home for Juvenile Delinquents are situated was named the Weaver Road, as a tribute to his interest in this part of the work of the County Commissioners.

Mr. Weaver's only club membership was in the Macon Rotary where he had been a member since soon after its organization. He was a member of the Telephone Pioneers of America, and of the Vineville Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

On January 21, 1892, in Crawfordville, Ga., William Hudnall Morgan Weaver married Anna Stephens Corry, daughter of Judge William A. Corry (born Sept. 17, 1817, Greene County, Ga.; died Feb. 13, 1878) and Mrs. Mary (Stephens) Reid (born July 19, 1836, in Troup County, Ga.; died April 16, 1889). Mrs. Weaver died in Macon, January 5, 1935. Their children are: William Morgan Weaver (whose children are Martha Evelyn (Mrs. Emmett Gardner McKenzie, Jr. and W. H. M. Weaver II); Hudnall Gentry Weaver, M.D. (whose children are Margaret Ann and Mary Octavia); Alexander Hamilton Stephens Weaver (whose children are A. H. S, Jr. and Olin Hudnall Weaver); and Anna Corry Weaver (Mrs. William Green Lee), all residents of Macon. Mary Octavia Weaver who was born in Anniston, Ala., and died in 1906 at the age of 14; and Jack Nickelson Weaver of New York who died in Macon on May 10, 1949. Jack's children were J. N., Jr. and Mary Jane Weaver.

The grandfather of Mrs. Anna Stephens (Corry) Weaver was John Lindsay Stephens, brother of the distinguished statesman, Alexander Hamilton Stephens.



ALFRED ROSS WILLINGHAM

ALFRED ROSS WILLINGHAM

Alfred Ross Willingham—None of the younger generation of business men in Macon has contributed more to its advancement in religious, civic and educational circles than this member of the prominent Willingham family.

After attending the public schools, he entered Gordon College at Barnesville, Georgia, where he was graduated in 1896 as Cadet Captain. From Gordon he entered Richmond (Va.) University, and was a member of Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity. In 1916 he was elected to the Bibb County Board of Education (a self-perpetuating body) and is now treasurer; was a trustee of Mercer University, Macon, 1917-25, and of State Teachers College at Athens, 1927-30.

It has been said: "Education minus religion is not education". Throughout his life the two have been inseparable. Alfred Willingham united with the First Baptist Church at the age of eleven, where his father and grandfather were active members and deacons. He was elected a deacon in 1908; president of the Men's Bible Class for twelve years; chairman of the Board of Deacons, 1915-30; and is now a life deacon. He enlisted with the Second Georgia Regiment of Infantry, serving as Captain of the Macon Hussars from 1898 to 1900, and as Adjutant, 1900-1901. In 1907 he was president of the Young Men's Christian Association.

On his return from college in 1907, Mr. Willingham entered his father's cotton warehouse. In 1901 he became secretary and treasurer of the Willingham Sash & Door Company. In 1907 he organized the Willingham Loan & Trust Company, in partnership with his brother, the late C. B. Willingham, Jr. They also organized the firm of Willingham Brothers, now Willingham & Payne. In 1927 he acquired an interest in the Central Sash & Door Company, of which he is now president.

Mr. Willingham was a member of the Macon Hospital Commission, 1911-17, and a director of the Macon Gas Company, 1918-29. Early in his business career he became a director of the Home Savings Bank (1902-05), of the Citizens National Bank (1907-16), and the Fourth National Bank (1916-27). He has been a member of the Macon Real Estate Board since its organization, and has served as president and director. In 1918 he was elected to membership in the Macon Rotary Club, resigning in 1934.

Alfred Ross Willingham was born in Macon on Augusta 2, 1878, son of Calder Baynard Willingham (born Allendale, S. C., Feb. 29, 1852, died Oct. 26, 1908, in Macon) and Lila Ross (born Dec. 17, 1854, died May 2, 1917). His father, Calder B. Willingham, was a son of Benjamin Lawton and Elizabeth (Baynard) Willingham. B. L. Willingham's sons were outstanding citizens of Macon. They were: Thomas H., Calder B., Robert J., Osgood P., Edward J., Paul D., E. Pringle and Benjamin B. Their daughters were: Phoebe (Mrs. Charles Malone), Carrie (Mrs. R. F. Lawton), Lizzie (Mrs. W. T. Johnstone) and Cecilia (Mrs. William S. Payne). His mother, Lila (Ross) Willingham, was a daughter William Alfred Ross (1814-1862) and Mary Ann Redding, and a granddaughter of Wm. C. and Margaret (Flewellen) Redding, and of Luke Ross (1775-1844) of Martin County, North Carolina, and Mary (Grimes) Ross, who settled in this section around 1820.

The children of C. B. and Lila (Ross) Willingham were: Bertha (Mrs. John J. Seibels of Columbia, S. C.), Calder B., Jr. (d. 1929), Alfred R., Leon K. (d. 1918), Richard F. (d. 1939) Lila (Mrs. Howell Erminger of Chicago), Ruth (Mrs. W. M. Norfleet of Winston-Salem, N. C.), Edith (Mrs. B. S. Wamble, Winston-Salem, N. C.) and Camille (Mrs. H. L. Izlar, Winston-Salem).

On February 19, 1901, Alfred Ross Willingham married Kate Benton Coleman, daughter of Samuel Taylor and Aurelia Alberta (Hilsman) Coleman of Macon, at their home on Coleman Hill. Their children are: Katherine (Mrs. R. J. Carmichael), Alfred R., Jr. (married Aileen West of Hickory, N. C.) and Josephine (Mrs. John R. Crandall), all residents of Macon. Grandchildren are: Katherine Carmichael II, and Alfred R. Willingham III.

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